

## De Maiziere renews coalition offer

EAST BERLIN (AP) — Lothar de Maiziere, East Germany's new president Saturday reiterated his offer to form a coalition with Social Democrats and said monetary union with West Germany will occur by summer. In an interview with West Germany's newspaper *Welt am Sonntag*, de Maiziere also said the country would elect a president. Meanwhile, the West German newsmagazine *Der Spiegel* reported Saturday that two former secret service agents have accused the chairman of East Germany's Social Democratic Party, Ibrahim Buseine, of being a former collaborator with the hated secret police. De Maiziere also has been accused of having links to the now-disbanded Stasi. The magazine quoted both politicians as denying the allegations, and said there was no proof of the allegations other than the claims by former agents. *Der Spiegel* also released an early transcript of comments by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in which he said a united Germany should put the past behind itself and live in peace with Poland, which would be its eastern neighbour.

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## Cliffhanger poll results in Australia

SYDNEY (R) — Prime Minister Bob Hawke's Labour Party hung on to power as a caretaker government Sunday after one of the closest elections in Australia's history failed to produce an immediate result. When the counting of votes from Saturday's election closed, at least six seats were still to be decided by postal and preferential votes. Counting will resume Monday but political analysts said it could be in the middle of the week before the final outcome was decided under Australia's complex voting system. Hawke said Labour would win at least one of the six undecided marginal seats — enough to give Labour a majority over the conservatives, but said he could not yet claim outright victory. "It is obvious to me that I should continue in a caretaker capacity until those results are finalized," said Hawke, who has been in power for the past seven years. I believe that when the vote is finalized that I will, on behalf of the Australian Labour party, again be in a position to form a government, the fourth Hawke Labour government," he told reporters soon after midnight.

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Ministry warns against illegal gatherings

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Interior Saturday appealed to members of the public, organisations, clubs and the press to abide by the rules and laws concerning the holding of meetings and warned that violators of the law would be prosecuted. The statement said that it had been noticed recently that several public meetings were organised by individuals, organisations and clubs without consideration of the law. It said all such meetings without proper authorisation according to law are regarded as illegal.

## Kuwait says CAEU failed

SUWAIT (R) — Finance Minister Jassim Mohammad Al Khouri said Saturday Kuwait was failing out of the Council for Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) because it had failed to achieve its goals. In a statement carried by the Kuwait news agency KUNA, he said the 13-member council had turned down several Kuwaiti proposals "to put it on the right track." He said Kuwait decided to quit because none of its warnings was heeded and because of "our complete belief that our presence in (the council) does not achieve any positive results."

## Communist leader killed in Kashmir

RINAGAR (R) — Kashmiri separatists stepped up their war gains against Indian rule, killing a senior leader of the Communist Party of India and a top policeman and kidnapping a politician, police said Saturday. Police said the Jammu and Kashmir Students' Liberation Front claimed responsibility for killing Communist leader Abdus Sattar Ranjor Friday night and police Deputy Superintendent Gulam Hassan Tabbasum Saturday. Kashmiri television said militants threatened to kill politician Mir Ghulam Mustafa unless 10 separatist colleagues were released from prison within 36 hours.

## Unknown group threatens Bonn

BEIRUT (AP) — A previously unknown group Saturday warned West Germany it would not keep silent over what it termed psychological torture of two convicted Lebanese nationals. The statement by the Organisation for the Defence of the Strugglers and imprisoned accused German authorities of practising lately the strongest kinds of "... psychological torture and using isolation techniques." It said the authorities used "huge moral pressure against our Mujahideen that reached their apogee... by banning (them) from practising their religious rites and carrying out their religious duties." The statement named the two as Mohammad Ali Hamadi and his brother Abbas, who are serving prison sentences in West Germany for abortion and extremism.

## Honecker homeless

EAST BERLIN (R) — Displaced former East German leader Erich Honecker Saturday left his pastor's house where he has been sheltered for the last two months, only to be forced out of his new home by street protests. The head of the government guest house north of the government guest house in Berlin where Honecker and his wife were due to move said a citizens' committee had decided to refuse the couple ospitality.

## Romania, Hungary swap charges

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania and Hungary swapped charges Saturday over ethnic clashes that killed three people in Romania's Transylvania province this week. "There is still a state of union, suspicion and mistrust on both sides," Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu told reporters. Hungary's ambassador in Bucharest, Dr. Szucs, met Prime Minister Ion Iliescu, who is Roman and disputed a Romanian statement accusing Hungary of inciting the clashes, a Hungarian diplomat said. Szucs rebuked the Romanian statement as "manipulative."

## Parliament lambasts U.S. Senate resolution on Jerusalem's status

By Mariam M. Shabani  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, the chairman of the House's Foreign Affairs Committee, and other deputies Saturday lambasted a resolution adopted by the U.S. Senate acknowledging occupied Jerusalem as the "capital of Israel," and promised prompt action against the measure.

House Speaker Saleh Arar attacked the Senate's decision, which came late Thursday, saying "it is a link in the chain of conspiracies against the Arab and Palestinian rights." The resolution, he said, "offers more proof that the U.S. Senate is controlled by the Zionist lobby."

The concurrent resolution adopted by the U.S. Senate "acknowledges that Jerusalem is and should remain the capital of the state of Israel," in a dramatic conflict with official American policy, which considered the Holy City as occupied territory.

The resolution, which was introduced by Senator Patrick Moynihan (Democrat of New York) and co-sponsored by Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (Republican of Minnesota) and 82 other members of the Senate, is not binding on the U.S. administration. It now goes before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives. After presenting and securing endorsement

ment of the resolution, Moynihan contended that its "swift passage... sends a message of reassurance to Israel, which is essential to making progress towards peace."

Speaker Arar described the resolution as a "new blow to Arab rights and a contradiction of all

(Continued on page 3)

**Following is the text of the resolution (No: 106) adopted by the U.S. Senate Thursday:**

Whereas the state of Israel has declared Jerusalem to be its capital;

Whereas from 1948 to 1967 Jerusalem was a divided city and Israeli citizens of all faiths were not permitted access to holy sites in the area controlled by Jordan;

Whereas since 1967 Jerusalem has been a united city administered by Israel and persons of all religious faiths were not permitted full access to holy sites within the city;

Whereas the president and the secretary of state have demonstrated their strong desire to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and have worked diligently toward that end;

Whereas ambiguous statements by the government of the United States concerning the right of Jews to live in all parts of Jerusalem raise concerns in Israel that Jerusalem might one day be redivided and access to religious sites in Jerusalem denied to Israeli citizens; and

Whereas such concerns inhibit and complicate the search for a lasting peace in the region; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

That the Congress

- 1) acknowledges that Jerusalem is and should remain the capital of the state of Israel;
- 2) strongly believes that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are protected; and
- 3) calls upon all parties involved in the search for peace to maintain their strong efforts to bring about negotiations between Israel and Palestinian representatives.

## 2 W. Bank boys injured in blast; violent protests continue

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Two Palestinian boys were wounded in the face, hands and legs in the village of Tekoa near Bethlehem in the West Bank when an unidentified object exploded near them, Palestinian officials said Saturday.

The boys, 11 and 14 years old, were taken to hospital in Jerusalem after the overnight explosion, the sources said. The army said it was checking the report.

Last year there were several incidents in which Palestinian children in the West Bank were killed or injured when they apparently came upon unexploded army mines and other explosives.

Soldiers shot and wounded a 10-year-old boy in the leg in Bethlehem overnight when they clashed with stone-throwing demonstrators, Palestinian sources said. The boy was a bystander during the clash, they said. The army was checking the report.

Mosk men conducted raids on shops in Bethlehem Saturday morning, ordering shopkeepers not sell Israeli products, Palestinian officials said.

In the Sabra neighbourhood of

Gaza a curfew was imposed, the sources said, during which residents were forced by soldiers to clear roadblocks and paint over Islamic and nationalist slogans.

Two Israeli peace groups visited the West Bank Saturday, Palestinian sources said. The Association in Defense of Children under Occupation distributed 2,000 textbooks in the villages of Jenin and Kabatiyah, they said.

The association issued a communiqué denouncing the closure of Palestinian schools in the occupied territories by Israeli authorities.

A group of Israeli Jewish and Arab doctors and nurses visited Kabatiyah and provided a day of free medical care, the sources said.

Peace activists turned back

Israeli soldiers turned back a group of Jewish peace activists trying to enter a West Bank village Saturday to visit the family of an Arab farmer jailed over a land dispute with settlers.

## Mubarak, Assad meet in Libya, call for Arab unity

ROME (Agencies) — Presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Hafez Al Assad of Syria met Saturday for the first time since ending a 12-year rift between their countries, joining other Arab leaders in Libya, a news report said.

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi welcomed Assad, Mubarak and Sudanese leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir at a ceremony in Tobruk, on Libya's Mediterranean coast, marking the 20th anniversary of the expulsion of British forces from Libya.

The Libyan news agency JANA, monitored in Rome, called the meeting a display of Arab unity and said Qadhafi expressed "a feeling of happiness, delight and pride in our brothers."

JANA quoted Mubarak as saying the Arab Nation needs unity to be able to withstand the challenges of U.S. and European economic blocs.

It quoted Assad as telling reporters that "without unity, I believe there will be no happy life for Arabs."

The presence of the three Arab leaders in Libya underlines the rapprochement which have taken place in the Arab World since an Arab summit in Casablanca last May.

For 10 years Libya and Syria were the bastions of a front virtually opposed to Egypt's 1979 treaty with Israel.

But Assad restored relations with Egypt earlier this year.

Libya remains the only Arab country without an embassy in Cairo but this has not prevented regular meetings between Qadhafi and Mubarak, who is now on his third visit to Libya.

General Bashir is also a regular visitor and after his last trip he announced that Libya and Sudan would sign agreements to pave the way for a merger within four years.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran and several members of the Cabinet attend a meeting Saturday with officials and residents of Karak (Petra photo)

## Badran listens to demands of Karak, promises action

AMMAN (J.T.) — The citizens of Karak, one of three southern areas hard hit by drought, Saturday presented demands to the prime minister for improving their living conditions and ways to deal with their present hardships.

In presenting the demands at a general meeting held upon the prime minister's arrival in Karak at the start of a three-day tour in the south, Governor Ismail Duheiman and Mayor Abdullah Dmouir said there was need for government action to stem unemployment, improve health and agricultural sectors and enable local citizens to deal with soaring prices of basic food supplies.

Airline their region's views in separate speeches, both the governor and the mayor called on the government to reschedule loan repayments of farmers in 1990 and 1991 and to exempt farmers from paying interest on the loans and make further allocations for road construction schemes in their region. They also demanded that the government launch housing projects for limited income groups, and to reduce the charges for electricity and water consumption. They also urged the concerned authorities to give due attention to youth and sports activities.

Among the most important demands were those for additional artesian wells and pasture lands for livestock.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran, who was accompanied by several Cabinet members, told his audience that the meeting was designed to identify the pressing problems and to come up with practical resolutions.

The government is doing all it

can to minimise problems and enable the citizens to maintain the process of construction, the prime minister said.

Work on constructing the new Karak hospital, a project which will be built through assistance from the Italian government will begin this year, the prime minister announced. He said that all artesian wells in the area would be reopened and tanker trucks would be used to carry water supplies to remote areas. Concerned authorities will embark on constructing earth dams and \$1 million that has been originally earmarked for the development of high lands will now be used for agricultural projects in the southern regions, the prime minister said.

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Among those addressing the meeting were the ministers of social development, health and

municipal and rural affairs and the environment.

Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Shreideh said that a general survey was being conducted in the Karak region to determine the volume of needy families which will later benefit from the National Aid Fund's services.

Minister of Health Mohammad Addob Al Zaben said that apart from the Karak hospital several health centres would be set up, with the Mazra centre to be transformed into a training unit for new doctors and to be provided with specialists.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Karim Al Dughi told the meeting that special arrangements would be made for the payment of loans to local councils over extended periods.

After the meeting in Karak, the prime minister called at Ghor Safi district within the governorate where he discussed agricultural problems and announced that a special committee will be set up to study all requests for the redistribution of agricultural lands in the region.

The prime minister and accompanying ministers heard representatives of the local people presenting requests, mainly concentrating on the agricultural sector.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the prime minister pointed out that it was beyond his authority to do so since martial law provisions have been frozen in the country since January. Any such ban order should come after the due process of the law, he told the deputies, according to the sources.

## Soviets, Israel said planning sea link

NICOSIA (AP) — Soviet and Israeli officials have been visiting Cyprus and Greece to discuss setting up a maritime line to bring Soviet Jews to Israel, the London-based Al Hayat newspaper reported.

Hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews are expected to emigrate to Israel in the next few years as the result of relaxed rules in the Soviet Union and tighter entry quotas in the United States.

The newspaper said the Soviets and Israelis hoped that a sea link could ease pressure on air flights, especially those of the overtaxed state-run Aeroflot.

The Soviet airline does not run direct flights to Israel. Instead, migrants must change at one of several transit points, of which

Officials in Cyprus and Greece could not be reached for comment.

Vessels in Cyprus.

Soviet officials at the time said the action was taken for purely commercial reasons, including access to Western services and Western credit.

Al Hayat said intelligence officials from both the Soviet Union and Israel made trips to the area ports to inspect security arrangements.

A Lebanese group holding Western hostages has threatened to attack airports and airlines involved in transporting Soviet Jews to Israel. Security already has been tightened at Larnaca airport in Cyprus, officials said earlier this month.

Newly-appointed Lithuanian Interior Minister Marijonas Misikonis has pledged that all conscripts on the run would be offered refuge in two camps in the republic, but warned their safety could not be guaranteed.

"If the (Soviet) army enters them, we cannot offer any force," Misikonis told a news conference late Friday.

Gorbachev has refused to recognise the independence declaration by the Lithuanian parliament and has made use of new presidential powers granted him by the Soviet parliament this month to try to bring the rebel republic back into the fold.

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# Middle East News

## 3 killed in Christian fighting amid fears of new all-out war

**BEIRUT** (Agencies) — Rival Christian forces battled with howitzers and mortars north of Beirut through the night stirring fears Saturday that it signals a new round of all-out war in a power struggle for mastery of the Christian enclave.

Police said three people were killed and seven wounded in the fighting in Kesrouan province on the eastern flank of the Christian enclave between rebel Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and the Lebanese Forces militia led by Samir Geagea.

The latest fighting raised the casualty toll since Aoun moved against Geagea on Jan. 30 to at least 765 killed and 2,123 wounded, most of them civilians.

Both sides accused each other of provoking the latest clashes, the most serious violation of a repeatedly abused March 3 ceasefire in the 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave.

The two armies had fought each other to a standstill before the ceasefire arranged by a three-man committee of neutral Christian mediators.

Fears that a new flare-up was looming have been fuelled by the mediators' failure to work out a political settlement to end the power struggle.

Tens of thousands of the estimated 1 million Christians living in the enclave have fled in recent weeks because of the fighting. It has been the bloodiest confrontation between Christian forces since the civil war erupted in April 1975.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing

regulations, said a large-scale battle "appears to be in the offing, especially if the mediation committee is unable to work out a settlement."

That would mark another serious setback for an Arab League-brokered peace accord aimed at ending the nearly 15-year-old civil war.

Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi, elected on Nov. 24 to implement the peace plan, has not been able to extend his authority in the Christian enclave because Aoun refuses to recognise him and rejects the accord as a betrayal.

A Christian source close to the mediators said, "The gap separating Geagea and Aoun remains very wide. The mediators haven't been able to bring them closer."

The source speaking on condition of anonymity, said the committee was "convinced that its efforts have reached a dead-end, but don't want to announce failure. They're hoping that a miracle of some sort might emerge to prevent a new wave of violence."

Beirut's independent An Nahar daily quoted unnamed government sources as saying the United States has informed "officials that Aoun must step down in favour of the legitimate authority" of Hrawi.

The report did not elaborate.

But the United States, like all countries with which Lebanon maintains diplomatic relations, recognises Hrawi as head of state.

Aoun, 54, considers himself the sole legitimate authority in Lebanon.

In September 1988, Aoun, the army commander, was named head of a caretaker military government by outgoing President Amin Gemayel before his six-year term expired with parliament unable to elect a new head of state.

The blaze broke out a week after a Lebanese militant Muslim group denounced Moscow for allowing mass emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, which holds three U.S. hostages, threatened to attack "all airports, planes, airlines and offices which help in their transport."

Lebanese security sources said the fire caused serious damage. Civil defence sources said Soviet officials kept them waiting for 30 minutes before allowing them to enter the embassy after the fire broke out. A Soviet diplomat was killed and three staff taken to hospital.

Soviet security men and Syrian troops barred journalists on Saturday from approaching the embassy, which is the biggest in the country.

He considers the Syrians who entered Lebanon in 1976 under an Arab League peacekeeping mandate to be an army of occupation.

Geagea recognises the presidency and has made cautious signals welcoming the Taif accord.

In a separate development Soviet officials said Saturday that a short circuit was to blame for a

fire at their Beirut embassy, which Lebanese sources said killed a Soviet diplomat and injured three other employees.

The officials declined to give further details of the fire that raged for two hours Friday on the first floor of the embassy in Mar Elias district of mainly Muslim west Beirut.

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## Arabs resent immigration of Soviet Jews — Carter aide

ATLANTA (R) — The Arab World's concern about the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel runs much deeper than generally believed in the United States, Jimmy Carter's Middle East adviser has said.

In that scenario, Palestinians currently living on the West Bank would migrate to the East Bank, inside Jordan, Stein said.

He refused to discuss in detail the meetings Carter had with several Middle East leaders, but he said Syrian President Hafez Al Assad indicated a willingness to be more helpful in the Middle East peace process.

"Assad looks at the peace process as a way of bolstering a new look with Washington," Stein said. The Syrian government will appoint an ambassador to Washington next month he said.

In addition, Assad indicated a willingness to "talk about an accommodation on the Golan Heights" territory seized by Israel.

He said Syrian officials indicated optimism about the possible release of American hostages held in Lebanon.

## U.N. chief hopes to speed up W. Sahara settlement

RABAT (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, speaking Saturday before talks with Morocco's King Hassan, said he hoped to speed up a settlement of the 14-year-long conflict in Western Sahara. Perez de Cuellar said on arrival at Marrakesh Friday he would "personally renew my efforts in the region... It is about time to give new impetus to this affair which has dragged on too long."

Settlement efforts have made some progress since Rabat and separatist Polisario guerrillas approved in principle a U.N. peace plan in August 1988.

The plan proposed a ceasefire and a referendum to let inhabitants of the sparsely-populated desert area choose either independence or integration with Morocco.

After talks with King Hassan, Perez de Cuellar is due to meet Polisario leaders in neighbouring Algeria.

The United Nations chief said

in his statement that the world was "going through a stage of conciliation and peaceful solutions of problems... Nothing prevents us advancing and obtaining positive and rapid results regarding the (Western) Sahara."

King Hassan met Polisario leaders in January last year but later rejected their demand for direct talks to settle details of a ceasefire and referendum.

After a lull of more than a year, the guerrillas resumed attacks on Moroccan forces in the Western Sahara in October last year. Polisario wants Morocco to withdraw its troops and settlers before the referendum.

Morocco says it controls four-fifths of the territory, with 82,000 troops stationed along 1,500 kilometres of defence lines along the Algerian and Mauritanian borders.

Polisario says there are 200,000 Moroccan troops and numerous settlers in the territory, and that 150,000 Saharan refugees live in camps in Algeria.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### Iraq calls Arab League meeting

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League will meet in Tunis Monday at Iraq's request to counter international criticism of Iraq's execution of British-based journalist Farzad Bazoft. A League spokesman said Saturday, Iranian-born Bazoft, who worked for the London Sunday newspaper the Observer, was convicted of spying for Britain and Israel and was hanged in Baghdad on March 15, despite appeals for clemency from Western countries and the United Nations. Several Arab countries have supported Iraq in the dispute and the Arab League, meeting at permanent representative level, is expected to make a statement of solidarity.

### 40 Kurds held after London protest

LONDON (R) — More than 40 Turkish Kurds were arrested after they occupied a Turkish Airlines office in central London Friday and threatened to set fire to the building, police said. Surrounding streets were cordoned off as police persuaded the group to end their occupation, believed to be a protest against alleged oppression of Kurds in Turkey. "Police identified a man in possession of petrol and matches. He made threats regarding possible damage to the building," a police spokeswoman said.

In addition, Assad indicated a willingness to "talk about an accommodation on the Golan Heights" territory seized by Israel.

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### ICRC complains of abuse of emblem

NAIROBI (R) — The Red Cross complained Saturday that other relief organisations in Sudan were flying flags too much like its own. President Cornelio Sommaruga of the Swiss-based International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said he "noted with great concern allegations of the misuse of the Red Cross emblem in Sudan." Sommaruga's statement, issued as he left Kenya for Uganda, drew attention to what he called "the regrettable practice of some NGOs (non-governmental organisations) of using logos and emblems deceptively similar to the plain Red Cross on a white field." He did not name the organisations but ICRC sources said one was the French medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), which uses a white cross on a red background. An MSF plane was shot down with the loss of four lives as it took off from the government-held town of Aweil in southern Sudan in January. The ICRC is involved in relief operations on both the government and rebel side of the civil war in southern Sudan. Sommaruga said abuse of the internationally recognised Red Cross emblem "endangered the credibility and the lives of those people rightfully using it to provide independent, neutral and impartial help to war victims."

### 2 Britons held in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Two British male nurses are under arrest in Saudi Arabia's eastern province in circumstances that are yet unclear, British embassy officials and other sources reported Saturday. The embassy did not identify the men or give any details. But the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the arrests took place about a week ago in Aboaqi near the kingdom's oil capital of Dhahran. The sources were unclear about the reason for the arrests. Some contended the Britons were taking photographs in forbidden areas, others said the men were involved in pornographic video deals. An embassy spokesman, who cannot be named under embassy rules, said, "we're in touch with the Saudi authorities about the arrests. It is our understanding that the men have not been charged yet." Last July, another British male nurse was jailed for dealing in contraband pornography. The arrest was not mentioned in the local media. The usual procedure in Saudi Arabia for dealing with foreigners in such cases is to have them arraigned and tried, and then to deport them. There are a number of British male nurses working at the British-run Al Fawateer Hospital in Jubail a petrochemical industry centre near Dhahran.

### Israeli envoy starts Ethiopia term

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Israel's new ambassador to Ethiopia, Meir Joffe, has presented his credentials to President Mengistu Haile Mariam, following the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in November. The official Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) said the ceremony took place Friday. Diplomatic sources in Addis Ababa said earlier this week that Ethiopia was planning to open an embassy in Israel later this year, probably in Tel Aviv. The diplomatic sources said that since relations between the two states were re-established, the emigration of black Falasha Jews from Ethiopia to Israel had resumed. An Israeli official said there were still more than 15,000 Falashas in Ethiopia, mostly living in their traditional homeland in the northern province of Gondar. "We are doing everything we can under a family reunification programme with the full cooperation and coordination of the Ethiopian government for those who want to come to Israel," the official said. The official said it usually took two to three months to process the papers of those Falashas wishing to emigrate, but he declined to say how many were leaving Ethiopia.

### Charles on private visit to Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Britain's Prince Charles arrived in Tunisia Friday night for a private visit which ends on Monday, British embassy sources said. The prince is expected to pay a courtesy call on President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali Monday but has no other appointments, they said. Prince Charles is on his way home from visits to Nigeria and Cameroun. His wife, Princess Diana, went straight home Friday morning.

### Kuwait plans to build training camps

KUWAIT (R) — Yugoslavia signed a contract on Saturday to build training bases for the 20,000-strong Kuwaiti army, the official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said. It gave no details. Kuwait last year ordered an undisclosed number of Yugoslav M-84 tanks in what diplomats described as a debt-settling deal. The tank is a Yugoslav version of the Soviet-designed T-72.

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

16:45 ....., Kuwait (LN)  
17:28 ....., Athens (OA)  
20:25 ....., Seoul (LN)

Upper/lower price in £ per kg

Apple ..... 450 / 440  
Banana ..... 450 / 450  
Banana (Midseason) ..... 400 / 350  
Bacon ..... 1100 / 900  
Cabbage ..... 80 / 40  
Carrot ..... 200 / 150  
Cauliflower ..... 250 / 200  
Cucumber (large) ..... 250 / 200  
Cucumber (small) ..... 450 / 400  
Eggs ..... 500 / 400  
Fruit juice ..... 200 / 150  
Garlic ..... 700 / 600  
Grapefruit ..... 260 / 200  
Lemon ..... 220 / 170  
Lettuce (per one) ..... 100 / 50  
Marrow (large) ..... 150 / 100  
Marrow (small) ..... 200 / 100  
Onion (dry) ..... 450 / 400  
Onion (green) ..... 500 / 400  
Orange ..... 320 / 280  
Orange (Steam) ..... 370 / 320  
Pepper (hot) ..... 1000 / 850

Other Flights (Terminal 1)

07:00 ....., Apapa, Munich (RJ)  
11:30 ....., Rome (RJ)  
11:30 ....., Vienna (RJ)  
11:25 ....., Tunis, Madrid, Casablanca (RJ)  
12:45 ....., Cairo (RJ)  
12:45 ....., Beirut (RJ)  
20:00 ....., Larnaca (RJ)

Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)  
20:28 ....., Cairo (RJ)  
20:45 ....., Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
20:45 ....., Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

08:30 ....., Jeddah, Agadir (RJ)  
12:45 ....., Cairo (RJ)  
14:45 ....., Cairo (RJ)  
17:25 ....., Paris (RJ)

17:55 ....., Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)  
18:00 ....., London (RJ)  
18:45 ....., Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
19:45 ....., Paris, Rome (RJ)

19:55 ....., Vienna (RJ)  
20:35 ....., Vicenza, Istanbul (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:35 ....., Rome (AZ)

10:35 ....., Cairo (MS)

11:30 ....., Kuwait (KU)

Four million people are threatened with starvation in northern Ethiopia due to drought and the on-going civil war.

Of those who made it, more died of disease caused by over-crowding than starvation.

To the west of Ethiopia, in Sudan, a similar situation exists.

There, additional tens of thousands have been displaced in recent months by a 7-year-old civil war that already has killed an estimated 500,000 unarmed civilians.

A U.N.-sponsored relief effort was created with savings thousands of people from

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615

Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
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## Islamists sidelined in Agriculture Engineers Association leadership

By Marian M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three consecutive terms of domination by Islamists of Jordan's Association of Agriculture Engineers came to end in the early hours of Saturday as a pan-Arab and leftist bloc — the Greens — won six out of nine seats on the association's executive committee.

Shaleh Abu Orabi and Mohammad Abu Ayash, the Green bloc's candidates for presidency and vice-president, were elected along with five other Green candidates, including one woman.

Despite the relatively low turnout — only 896 of a possible 1,243 registered voters took part in Friday's voting process — association members made no secret of their grievances.

With the decline of economic prosperity in Jordan, agriculture engineers say that they were among the first victims of the economic crisis.

Giving lack of guidelines or framework to protect their profession and the "hitherto unexplored agricultural potential of the Kingdom," many of its voters called for a drastic change in the administration and direction of their 24-year-old union.

The "Greens" dominated the association from 1986 through 1989 but lost out to the Islamists — the White bloc — since then. Only one Green sat on the last executive committee, which was chaired by Tarek Al Tel.

Supporters of the Greens and other agriculture engineers who said that they were not aligned with any bloc cited certain policies of the previous administrations as factors that led to their downfall.

High unemployment, which was described as "slow job mobility," and the "general inactivity" of the previous executive committee were cited as deterrents to reelect the White bloc to power.

The membership fees is JD 12, but a JD 120 pension plan fee must be paid by the association's members to qualify as eligible voters.

"First of all it is unfair; other professional associations don't have such harsh stipulations when it comes to voting eligibility," said an obviously angry voter.

"Secondly, they have put our pension money in the Islamic Bank where the interest rate is six per cent; maybe we don't like that, but they never even consulted us," he said.

### The Independents'

The Green-White differences were played up by a third bloc, which was established only a few weeks before the elections.

The leader of the Independent bloc, Akef Zoubi, is a former Green member who split from the bloc which he helped lead.

Zoubi told the Jordan Times that he formed his five-member ticket, which is a mixture of pan-Arabists, Islamists and one "very traditional" candidate, because he was "sick of the over-politicization" of the other blocs.

"This is no longer a professional union but a political arena and I think it's time we become more concerned with agricultural issues," Zoubi said.

Insiders say that Zoubi was angry that he had not been chosen as the presidential candidate of the Green bloc and had objected to what he considered the misrepresentation of certain political forces on the Green ticket.

One veteran association member disagreed. "The new committee might change some of the voting requirements, making it less expensive for members to vote," he said.

"That way more of the association's 2,000 members may have the chance to vote next time, and I think they will reelect those who gave them the chance to vote," he added.

The new executive committee members are: Ghaleb Abu Oreibi (president), Mohammad Abu Ayash (vice-president), Kayed Rashdan, Hassan Halaseh, Ibrahim Abu Oteii, Karima Ghamem (the sole woman), and the three Whites on the committee are Ghassan Momani, Samir Habab and Jihad Abu Mishref.

RAMTHA (Petra) — A symposium on agricultural systems in Jordan opened at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) Saturday with the participation of specialists from JUST and the Ministry of Agriculture's National Centre for Research and Technology (NCRT).

The participants will discuss field experiments, and will conduct assessments of Jordanian agricultural projects and the results at the ministry's agricultural stations.

Ministry of Agriculture Secretary-General Sami Al Sunna addressed the opening session of the two-day meeting, underlining

the importance of agriculture in Jordan and urging an increase in the production of cereals.

Sunna also outlined the various agricultural services which, he said, offer great assistance to the farmers.

"Lack of trained agricultural workers, lack of proper marketing and pricing systems for agricultural products are among the main problems impeding the development of farming in Jordan," said Sunna.

The participants will make field trips to a number of agricultural stations and main agricultural schemes in the country.

A worker sprays crops with pesticides in the Jordan Valley. Jordan's experience in farming is the focus of a two-day symposium which opened in Amman Saturday (file photo)

## Experts review Jordan's farming

AMMAN (Petra) — Despite the closure of Arab universities in the occupied territories at least 40 per cent of the total number of students graduated over the past two years, according to Bir Zeit University President Dr. Hanna Nasir.

"The universities are going through a long process of preparing the rest of the students for graduation after providing them with the required courses," the expelled university president said in an interview in a Jordan Television programme entitled "Encounter."

Nasir, who was appointed president of Bir Zeit University in 1972, was expelled by the Israeli

## Leftists take total control of banking, insurance staff

By Sana Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — All 11 candidates of the leftist "National bloc" of Jordan Banks and Insurance Employees Association (JBIEA) were elected to the association's general committee, but with the lowest turnout of voters in the history of the association's elections, organisers said Saturday.

Only 1,039 members — 35.2 per cent of the 2,947 eligible voters — of the association showed up at the Opera Cinema to cast their votes Friday, according to one of the winners from the "National bloc," Yousef Hourani.

Hourani, who received 725 votes, told the Jordan Times Saturday that the voter turnout was "disappointingly low, especially in comparison with other associations and unions where 60 to 70 per cent of the members take part in the elections."

One of the reasons for the low turnout, he said, was the imbalance in the strength of the two competing blocs — the "National bloc" and the non-political "Renewal and change bloc."

"The members knew that the National bloc would win anyway because of the history and reputation of the candidates' activity in the association. So many members depended on that fact without bothering to show up to cast

their votes," Hourani said. He cited the timing of elections as another reason for the low turnout, saying that many people used the last Friday before the Holy Month of Ramadan to go on their trips and outings.

Hourani said that the "National bloc" had agreed in principle over the allocation of seats in the general committee, but a formal announcement would be made later this week.

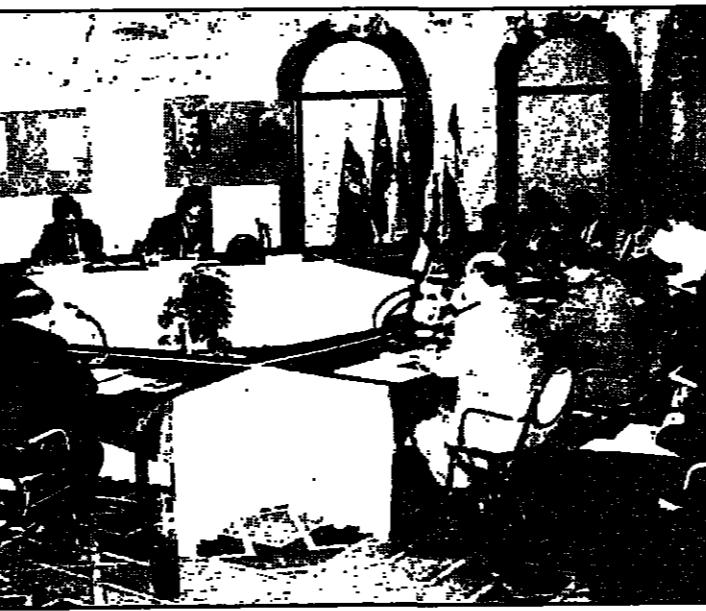
The programme of the "National bloc," which includes Marxist and nationalist members, promises JBIEA members that it will defend their rights related to working conditions and salaries, and vows to "participate in the struggle to amend and develop the laws that will serve the people, especially the labour law and social security."

The promises went beyond the realm of the employees of banks, insurance companies and accounting firms, vowing that the bloc would fight for national and union unity and "accelerate the struggle in the Jordan-Kuwait Bank and the Cairo-Amman Bank," Hourani explained.

He said that 345 JBIEA members cast their votes for the entire list of the 11 candidates of the "National bloc," while 85 votes went to the four members of the "Renewal bloc." Jamal Ayyad received 432 votes, the highest from the 609 votes went to candidates from two blocs, or from both blocs excluded some candidates from the respective blocs.

This was the first time that the leftists joined forces in the JBIEA election by running in the same bloc rather than compete against each other.

Haidar Rashid, one of the longest-reigning association



authorities in 1974 and since then has been conducting his affairs from his office in Amman.

"Arab universities in the occupied lands do not serve only as educational institutions, but rather as social development centres where local leadership are created," Nasir said in the interview conducted by Rami Khouri, former editor of the Jordan Times.

"The Israelis regard these universities as centres for building the Palestinian nation and for this reason they declared war on education, describing it as a criminal action," Nasir added. He said that students pursue their studies privately outside the uni-

## West Bank education continues in spite of Israeli 'war' — Nasir

AMMAN (Petra) — Despite the closure of Arab universities in the occupied territories at least 40 per cent of the total number of students graduated over the past two years, according to Bir Zeit University President Dr. Hanna Nasir.

"The universities are going through a long process of preparing the rest of the students for graduation after providing them with the required courses," the expelled university president said in an interview in a Jordan Television programme entitled "Encounter."

Nasir, who was appointed president of Bir Zeit University in 1972, was expelled by the Israeli

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cabinet endorses AESC decisions

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Ministers met Saturday under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Massa'deh and decided to endorse decisions and recommendations taken by the 43rd session of the Arab Economic and Social Council (AES) held in Cairo last month. The council also appointed Ghazi Libbadeh as director of the appliances department at the Ministry of Finance and member of the board of the Postal Savings Fund for a three-year term representing the Ministry of Finance.

### Ministry sets Ramadan working hours

AMMAN (Petra) — Employees and teachers at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education offices will work during the month of Ramadan from 9:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m., according to a decision announced Saturday by Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan. The decision also defined working hours for employees at the education departments from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and those working at schools from 8:00 a.m. The decision limited the class period to 40 minutes, and the break, which is usually after the third class, to 20 minutes.

### Abu Taleb meets French air chief

AMMAN (Petra) — French Air Force Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Jean Fleury met in Amman Saturday with Army Chief of Staff Fadi Abu Taleb and reviewed the situation in the Middle East region in general and issues of common interest to Jordan and France in particular. The French general later called at the Martyrs Monument and reviewed the displayed items featuring the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces since the Great Arab Revolt. Fleury arrived in Amman Friday evening on a several-day visit to Jordan during which he will also tour a number of military positions.

### Exhibition opens on heritage

ZARQA (Petra) — An exhibition on Jordanian-Palestinian heritage was opened Saturday at Al Abbasi Club in Zarqa. The exhibition, opened by the head of the Public Committee for Supporting the Intifada in Zarqa, includes various costumes representing cities and villages in Jordan and Palestine, paintings depicting the local environment, photos of martyrs of the intifada and cassettes and tapes of national songs.

### Bio-climatic architecture under review

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) today hosts a special symposium on bio-climatic architecture in cooperation with the Italian Soft Energy System and the Egyptian Building Research Corporation. Representatives of various ministries, public organisations, engineering offices and factories in Jordan are expected to take part in the two-day meeting.

### Sharia, fiqh debated in Jeddah

AMMAN (Petra) — The Orphans Fund took part in the meetings of the Islamic Fiqh (jurisprudence) Council, held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, from March 14 to March 20 to discuss several issues and the Islamic Sharia (law) concerning them. Director-general of the Orphans Fund Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, who represented the Fund in Jeddah's meetings, said that the meeting took a number of decisions pertaining to transplant, surgery, test-tube babies and Islamic real estate funding among other issues.

## Aid for uprising is zakat — general mufti

AMMAN (Petra) — The general mufti Saturday issued a statement stressing that donations made to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories are considered as zakat (funds paid by Muslims to help the poor).

The mufti, Sheikh Izzedine Al Tamimi, said that zakat, an assistance normally paid to the poor, can be paid to "the oppressed" Palestinians who are involved in resisting occupation by infidels in the holy shrines in Palestine."

Tamimi noted that a special zakat fund, set up by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs which receives the donations for the poor, had been entrusted with the task of handling donations to the Palestinian people involved in

the uprising.

"The donations are channelled through the ministry to the occupied Arab territories for the benefit of the families of martyrs and injured people," Tamimi said.

In another statement, Tamimi said that his office would be open during the Holy Month of Ramadan to receive requests by members of the public about interpretations of Islamic law.

"The Iftaa council will be meeting during the Holy Month for the purpose of receiving enquiries and replying to them," Tamimi added.

He said that any interpretation of the Islamic laws and regulations would be offered free of charge.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### THE NATIONAL WEEK FOR SUPPORTING THE INTIFADA

- ★ Recital of Palestinian national songs at Terrace Hall International — 6:00 p.m.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "The Palestinian Uprising in Photos", displaying photos, cartoons, books and posters depicting the Palestinian uprising, at the University of Jordan.
- ★ Exhibition of Jordanian-Palestinian heritage which includes costumes, paintings, photos and cassettes of national songs, at Al Abbasi Club, Zarqa.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of plastic artists Arif Al Hammoud and Ibrahim Al Nabulsi at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ Art exhibition by seven Iraqi artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Spanish contemporary engravings" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ The spring exhibition of Bani Hamida women's weaving project at the Bani Hamida House - Jabal Amman, Rainbow Street.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Imam Tantawi at Alia Art Gallery.

### THEATRE

- ★ Arabic puppet play entitled "Fables from my Grandmother's Chest" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.

### POETRY RECITAL

- ★ Arabic poetry reading by Abdullah Radwan and Mohammad Arafat at the Soviet Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ Feature film entitled "It's a wonderful life" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

**Jordan Times**

Tel: 667171

## Jordan Times

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## For prompt action on Senate resolution

THE U.S. Senate's resolution on Jerusalem Thursday does not only contravene U.N. and U.S. resolutions and policies on the Arab-Israeli conflict, but also contradicts itself, in both substance and form.

The U.S. senators, who signed the resolution "acknowledging Jerusalem as the capital of Israel" did not understand, or chose to ignore, that such measures will not help the peace process, nor will it contribute to recognising the U.S. as an honest broker in the Middle East.

This is what exactly might have been on the minds of the American legislators who sponsored the resolution in the Senate: to torpedo all recent U.S. attempts to bring the Palestinians and the Israelis together for talks on coexistence and their future in the area.

The language used in the resolution notwithstanding, it is obvious to us that the intention behind issuing the resolution was neither to reassure Israel, nor to help the Bush administration in its efforts to bring about peace in the area. The whole attempt has been orchestrated to let Israel off the hook, just exactly when pressure on the Jewish state was starting to produce results.

Apart from considering congressional elections in the U.S. in November as a possible explanation for the Senate vote, we have little precious information on which to base a judgement on the situation that led to the resolution. Analysis of the work of the Jewish lobby and its interaction with mainstream American politics should take the backseat for now, however. What is important for our purposes in the Arab World is action, first to stop the resolution from being also adopted by the House of Representatives and fought by the administration, and second to make the Senate understand the consequences of its irresponsible resolutions.

The Arab World cannot possibly afford to remain silent in the face of such blows to its integrity and interests. There has to be something that the Arabs can do to counter such threats, both individually and collectively. What action is needed to nip the Senate resolution in its bud, we cannot say in a few words. What can be said is that there has to be a concerted effort by our governments and parliaments and peoples to counter the new threat from Capitol Hill. Our politicians, parliamentarians and institutions have to be brainstormed for possible retaliatory steps against the U.S. Senate and possibly the whole U.S. Congress, and then the necessary steps have to be translated into solid actions that can actually save us all from the impending tragedy that awaits us.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

UNDER THE title "partners in responsibility," Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday welcomed Prime Minister Mudar Badran's three-day tour of the southern regions of Jordan as a favourable response not only to the King's directives but also as a means to meet the needs of the people in the drought-stricken regions of Jordan. The paper said that the tour was part of an ongoing process of democracy and a way of maintaining open channels of communication between government and people to work together towards progress and construction. There is no doubt that the democratic atmosphere that presently prevails in Jordan encourages such a dialogue, but it should be noted that the government does not possess ready made solutions and sufficient means to implement plans that would enable the people to overcome the present difficulties and problems, the paper noted. It said that the prime minister's tour is bound to open new avenues of cooperation between the citizens of Jordan and their government, as both sides are partners in sharing responsibility. It said that the people in the three governorates should act as responsible citizens, taking part in finding solutions not serving as people with mere requests awaiting others to find solutions for their problems.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily notes in Saturday's edition that Jordan's apprehension of Jewish immigration into Palestine is justified because the only result of such immigration is further delay in peaceful solutions and no withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Arab lands occupied since 1967. Jordan is also apprehensive that such immigration would end up with a massive exodus of Palestinians who will be forced to leave Palestinian land to settle in Jordan which, as Israel claims, should serve as a substitute homeland for the Palestinian people. Faded Al Fanek notes. Therefore, he adds, such immigration constitutes a direct threat to the Kingdom and calls for effective measures to counter the move, the writer stresses. Fanek proposes a nine-point plan with which to counter the Zionist moves: He calls for enhancing the Palestinian uprising which he considers as the first defence line for Jordan, a world-wide campaign supported by various friendly organisations to highlight the danger inherent in the immigration programme, urging Arab Communist parties to exercise pressure on Moscow to halt the immigration, a serious attempt to convince Washington of the dangers inherent in Israel's plans, urging the Soviet media to highlight the uprising in Palestine, emphasising Jordan's independent and sovereign state, placing restrictions to prevent an eviction of Palestinians from Palestine to Jordan, and calling for an Arab summit to chart plans for a counter move.

Sawt Al Shabab daily commented on the start of investigations into the case of leaking parliamentary deliberations on the issue of corruption to the press. The paper said that it was natural for a country living through democracy to see the fourth estate, the press, revealing aspects of the issue to the public since the question of corruption is a matter of concern to all citizens of Jordan and the Kingdom's destiny. The paper expressed hope that the probe would not divert the parliament from its original task of revealing the identity of those responsible for the Kingdom's plight and those responsible for the corruption. The paper said that the deputy who leaked some information to the press should not be regarded as a traitor and there is no need for setting up a committee to disclose his identity. But, it said, some kind of action can be taken internally that would ensure the secrecy of the future meetings of the Lower House of Parliament.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Economic adjustment is a nation

EFFORTS to put the national economy on the right track is an awesome task that could not be finished within a relatively short period of time. It is a hardship that needs commitment and persistence, until stability is restored and results achieved.

Jordan is one of the rare countries that made up its mind very soon after the economic crisis hit. The country adopted coherent adjustment programmes and put them into effect with the minimum of delay.

Only Jordan was able to reverse the sharp economic decline, stabilise the situation and finalise re-scheduling agreements with creditors in a record short period of time.

However, we should have no illusions that the problem is now behind us, or that every

thing is going back to normal very soon. Lots of hardships and even sufferings are still lying ahead of us.

In order for us to persist and push-on with our programme, without hesitation, we have to know and be convinced that the economic correction programme is not meant to secure the rights of creditors, or to squeeze the people and starve them in order to save foreign exchange for debt service. Rather, the programme is needed for the best interest of the Jordanian economy and the Jordanian people.

Of course shortages of foreign exchange may hurt the creditors, but it will hurt the economy and cause shortages in food, raw materials and other necessary imported items. We witnessed the beginning of such situation during

the six months following the crisis of October 1988. What we have seen then is nothing compared to the consequences of economic collapse, when the production comes to a stand still due to lack of imported input.

Thanks to the swift measures and policies, that the government started in April 1989, the foreign exchange situation eased, and is now under control.

Creditors will not be repaid unless Jordan first satisfied its own basic needs. Without correction we cannot pay the creditors; and without correction we cannot meet the basic needs of the industry, agriculture, families, and the Armed Forces.

The creditors know that Jordan cannot pay them back during the coming five years, and that is why they agreed to

re-schedule debts, and give Jordan a grace period to re-arrange its own house.

For at least five years, the fruits of correction will be reaped by the people and the national economy. After that, it depends. If we recover fully and achieve a surplus in our balance of payments account, we shall resume repayments of the principal, and our indebtedness will start to decrease. If not, the creditors will have no alternative except to give us another grace period, and roll over their debts for more years, provided they are convinced that during the first five years we did all that we could to reasonably rectify our economy and eliminate distortions.

However, I do not believe that in five years Jordan will become a surplus country in its

international trade. The minimum target is to reduce deficit and cover part of gap.

Therefore, it is quite obvious that the current five year correction programme is sole the benefit of the people the creditors. If we do adjust we shall find ourselves unable to import food, material, oil, spare machinery, etc.

Although many pointed raised their voices again programme in the name of people, and, by doing so, gained some publicity popularity, yet every knows, by now, that politicians had no alternative programme were unable to prove the objectives of the programme are not desirable in the right, irrespective of whether

## NATO ponders the surreal — 'enemy' troops

By Nicholas Doughty  
Reuter

BRUSSELS — NATO is facing the surreal prospect of having thousands of "enemy" troops stationed on its soil — and even paying for some of them.

With German unification seemingly just around the corner, harassed officials at NATO headquarters on the outskirts of Brussels are trying to answer the following question:

If a united Germany is a member of the Western alliance, what happens to thousands of Soviet troops stationed on East German territory, the frontline of an increasingly ragged Warsaw Pact? Will they, and their nuclear weapons, stay on?

And what will happen to the East German army, once the pride of the Eastern bloc alliance?

"It may sound crazy, but we may have a situation where perhaps the heaviest concentration of Warsaw Pact troops is, at least for a time, stationed on NATO territory," said one official. "Germany may even have to pay for some of them."

The irony is not lost on officials here who work for an organisation that spent four decades making sure that no Warsaw Pact soldier set foot on alliance territory.

The four World War II allied powers — the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and France — are discussing these questions with the two Germanys in the so-called "two plus four" talks. Four of those six countries are NATO members.

Moscow has rejected NATO's demand that a single German state should be a member of the Western alliance, even though NATO has said it would not station its own troops in what is

now East Germany.

But the Soviet Union has also indicated that it could not withdraw all its 380,000 frontline forces from East Germany immediately, NATO officials say.

"The Soviets have nowhere to put them and their families, there is a chronic housing shortage," said one official. "Their economy cannot cope with the strain just

now."

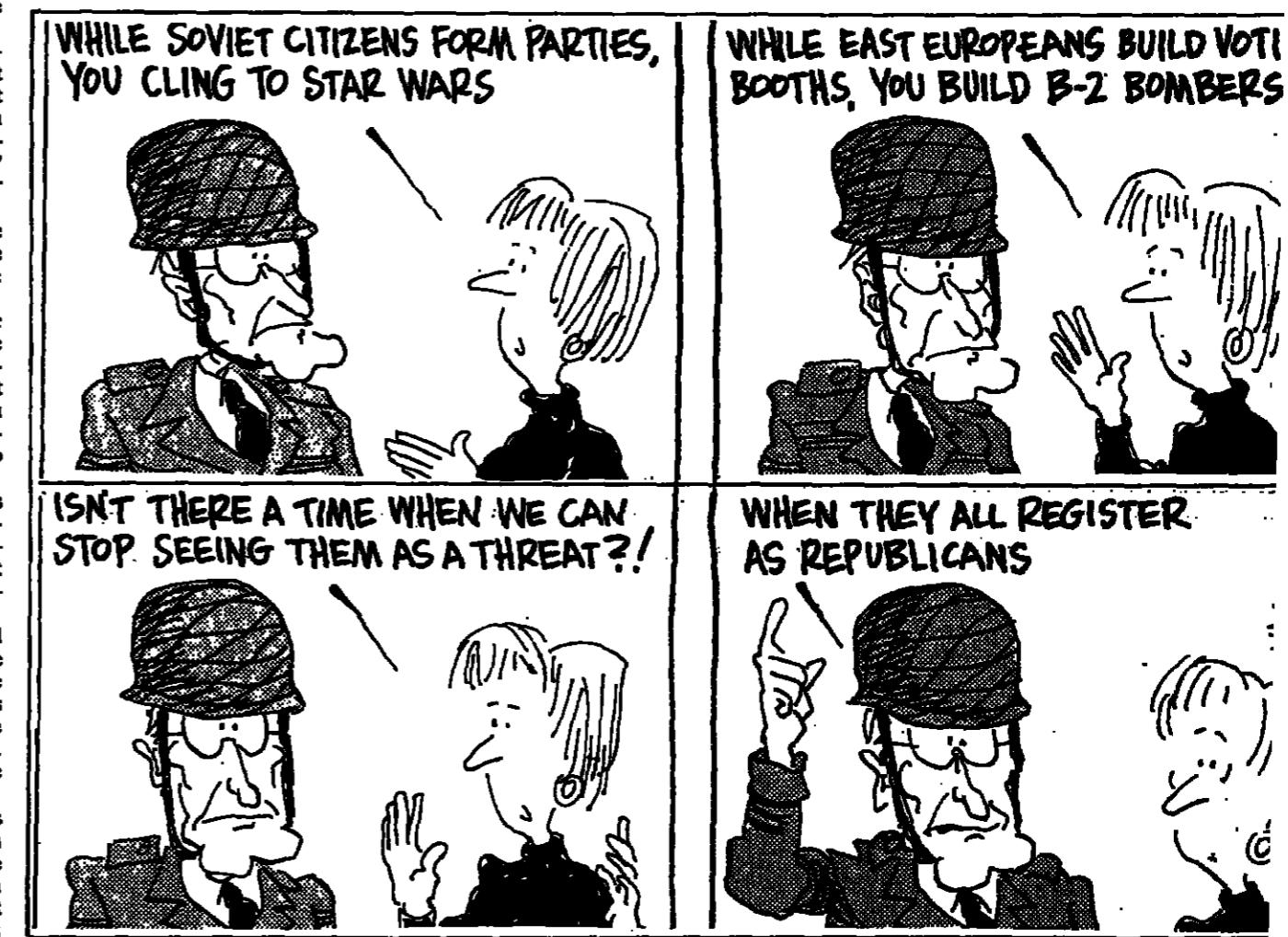
"Keeping at least some of them there for a while would ease the Soviet burden, help their security concerns a little and would be a useful face-saver for Moscow," he added.

Since East Germany paid much of the cost of keeping Soviet troops there when it was a hard-line Communist state, it seems

stay and how long that transitional period will be.

NATO has 400,000 troops in West Germany, which pays most of the costs of keeping combat troops on its soil. This means that a united Germany could be in the position of having to keep troops from two military alliances.

The Soviet forces in E



## LETTERS

### Lena

To the Editor:

RECENTLY during the last hard rain in Amman, in the middle of a bleak, dark night, a young woman named Lena, gave birth to her fourth child, a girl. Most women are happy to be relieved of their nine month burden, but Lena with great misery and sadness, dreaded the birth of her child.

The day after Lena's beautiful healthy, blond baby was born, Lena's mother-in-law came to the hospital, but not to pay a social visit. Lena's mother-in-law came to take the little bundle home with her. Lena did not go home with her baby, but instead went to her father's house, now her home, empty-handed.

As she opened the door to her once again home, there were no young children to happily greet her. Her three young sons who would normally have shared with Lena the joy of a little sister were also not there. Four beautiful children who Lena had loved and cared for had been erased from Lena's life. No more could they find solace in Lena's welcoming arms. No more would they be comforted by Lena's healing kisses, for they were now in their father's custody.

Lena is a sweet, gentle, attractive woman. She is bashful and quiet. It is hard to understand why her husband divorced her, but much cause for her divorce came from a hostile mother-in-law, jealous sisters-in-laws and an apathetic husband. Added to this was her belligerent mother who always took Lena's oppression as an excuse to vent her hostilities against Lena's in-laws. Since Lena, her husband and children had all lived with Lena's in-laws, life was a continuous struggle for survival. Lena's sweet disposition was no match either for her husband's family or her mother.

Lena spent the last months of her pregnancy in her father's house serving her mother like a maid. Her mother would nonchalantly go out visiting while Lena was left to do the housework and the cooking. Humiliated by divorce and deeply sorrowed by the loss of her children, Lena must now sit at home and wait for some miracle to relieve her of the drudgery of her present situation. Can such a person ever find happiness in any possible future marriage fearing that any children she might bear will also be taken away from her?

Meanwhile, her mother's vengeance has been wrought at Lena's expense. Lena's husband is none the worse for his divorce for he was looking for a wife before he sent Lena packing. Lena's in-laws with an already large family will have just one more mouth to feed with another baby. So who cares? But Lena cares. Her small children care, and what about the tiny new life that was brought into the world? Can anyone's touch or love compare to Lena's? Truly divorce is the destruction of a sacred institution. It is a home breaker and a life wrecker and those hurt most are mothers and their children.

E. Yaghi  
Amman

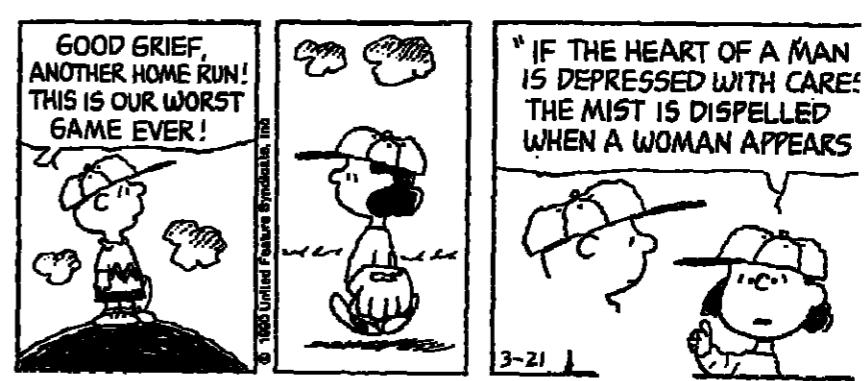
### Mutt'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



### Peanuts



dp/11-15-13

LA SEMAINE DE ...

Suleiman Steiss

Ramadan: mois spirituel socialisé

Encore quelques jours et vous y serez. Ramadan est derrière les portes... Il arrive. Mercredi ou jeudi, on change d'horaires de travail, de repas et de bon nombre d'autres habitudes pour s'accommoder avec les rites du mois saint. Une toute autre atmosphère va envahir le pays, avec des rues qui se vident entre six heures et huit heures le soir; des fonctionnaires paresseux le matin; des bus des écoles qui arrivent un peu tard et des magasins ouverts une partie de la nuit.

Les relations sociales s'activent par le biais des banquets de "foutouf" traditionnel, tous les soirs. Les plats et les pâtisseries "ramadaniens", notamment les "kataif", vont réapparaître et retrouver leurs marchés. Mais d'ores et déjà, on craint comme les années précédentes des hausses de prix, suite aux dépenses alimentaires excessives attendues dans les semaines à venir.

Mois de jeûne et de sacrifice, Ramadan s'est en effet transformé au fil des ans en un mois d'abondance et de gaspillage. Pour les riches, c'est le moyen de s'exhiber et de se rassasier de tout. Pour les pauvres, c'est une occasion de manger à leur faim, car le reste de l'année est "Ramadan" jour et nuit.

Crise économique et traditions

Il est peu probable que la crise économique, que traverse le pays, puisse modifier des habitudes prises depuis de longues années. Certes, des gens vont essayer de réduire leur consommation et d'économiser. Mais ils vont assez vite se rendre compte que leur marge de manœuvre est étroite, s'ils veulent se conformer aux obligations sociales et aux traditions. Mais Ramadan ne se résume pas seulement à coup de fourchette. C'est aussi une ambiance, des prières et des rituels. Les visites et les réunions d'amis autour de la table offrent autant d'occasions de parler de tout et de rien: actualité et affaires de corruption, questions politiques et sociales, plaisanteries, affaires personnelles et affaires tout court.

L'ouverture politique que connaît notre pays depuis quelques mois va certainement marquer Ramadan 1990. Députés, partis et personnalités politiques vont en profiter pour se manifester et pour regrouper partisans et alliés au cours de longues soirées.

Dans le même temps, le mois saint, lui, se voit graduellement vidé de son contenu spirituel. Exemples: pour diminuer l'effet du jeûne pendant la journée, on augmente les quantités de repas le soir et avant la prière de l'aube; pour "soutenir" plus facilement les "souffrances" qu'il provoque, on réduit les horaires et les tâches professionnelles. De nombreux dossiers s'en trouvent reportés. Et l'on entend le refrain habituel: «Venez après Ramadan»; enfin, la télévision s'efforce de présenter ses "meilleurs" programmes, films et feuilletons, pour distraire le public.

A l'origine, Ramadan était conçu comme une période de sacrifice, d'endurance et d'austérité, qui rapproche, ou plutôt rappelle à l'homme musulman les valeurs spirituelles.

Aujourd'hui, il semble que nous nous sommes beaucoup éloignés de cette définition. Peut-être ferons-nous bien d'y réfléchir, et de revenir aux sources, sous une forme adaptée à notre époque.

Vous écrivez?

Si la plume vous démange, que vous écrivez en français... "Le Jourdain" vous ouvre ses pages hebdomadaires. Vos idées de sujets, locaux et régionaux, comme vos suggestions, y sont les bienvenues.

Alain Renon, French section, Jordan Times. PO Box 6710. Tel: 667171.



345 millions de dollars de bénéfice en 1988

## Faire rimer tourisme avec rentrée en devises

Confrontée à une sérieuse crise économique, le royaume hachémite tente de stimuler son tourisme.

«Nous tenterons, au cours des trois prochaines années, de doubler nos revenus touristiques, estimés en 1988 à 345 millions de dollars, soit 16% des rentrées en devises de la Jordanie». Le ministre du Tourisme, Abdel Karim Kabariti, ne peut être plus clair. Le secteur, dont il a la charge, est lucratif. En crise économique oblige, il faut qu'il devienne encore plus.

Pour réaliser ce projet plutôt ambitieux, le ministre estime devoir encourager le secteur privé à assumer une plus grande responsabilité dans le développement d'une activité, désormais considérée comme «vital» pour l'économie du pays. «Le tourisme et les transferts de fonds des émigrés [plus de 350.000 Jordaniens vivent à l'étranger] représentent nos principales ressources en devises», souligne-t-il. En clair, le ministère a décidé de «soutenir ouvertement les investissements du secteur privé, qui a démontré qu'il était plus capable» que le gouvernement dans la promotion du tourisme, selon les propres termes d'Abdel Karim Kabariti, qui a par ailleurs annoncé au début de la semaine la Crédit d'un Conseil pour le développement du tourisme (CDT).

Le CDT est ainsi formé de représentants d'organismes privés, dont des propriétaires d'hôtels, d'agences de voyages, ainsi que de responsables de la compagnie aérienne nationale et de l'Agence américaine de développement international (USAID). C'est lui qui prendra en charge la promotion touristique du royaume hachémite, sur la base d'un budget de 500.000 dol-



Petra, l'une des valeurs sûres du tourisme jordanien.

lars, assuré par le ministère, la Royal Jordanian (RJ) et l'USAID. Auparavant, l'Etat assumait seul cette fonction, avec une enveloppe limitée à 100.000 dollars.

Obstacles

Mais les efforts des autorités risquent de se heurter à une conjoncture plutôt difficile et aux réserves, émises à plusieurs reprises par les mouvements fondamentalistes musulmans. Responsables et agents du secteur privé craignent en effet que les tensions régionales, en regain depuis l'immigration massive des juifs soviétiques en Israël, tout comme l'influence croissante des religieux conservateurs dans le pays, ternissent l'image de stabilité de la Jordanie et diminuent par conséquent l'afflux de touristes. «Les éventuelles répercussions

de cette immigration et le bruit fait autour de la question à l'étranger les ont déjà découragés», assure l'un des quarante agents de voyages jordaniens. Selon lui, les intégristes jouent un rôle tout aussi dissuasif, en faisant campagne contre les boîtes de nuit et les lieux d'amusement. Ces derniers sont «nécessaires pour attirer les touristes, notamment ceux des pays du Golfe», insiste-t-il. Sous l'influence des députés islamistes, le gouvernement de Moudar Badraa a ainsi interdit en janvier le service de boissons alcoolisées à bord des avions de la RJ. Une mesure, qui selon la compagnie, entraînera un manque à gagner annuel de 5 millions de dollars.

Tout en soulignant que le slogan «Jordanie: un havre de sécurité et de stabilité» constitue le «capital le plus prometteur» du tourisme national, M. Kabariti, remorque-t-il. Reste à savoir le contenu que les Frères entendent donner à ces valeurs.

Saad Hattar.

Corruption

### Neuf affaires devant la justice

Six juges, investis des pouvoirs de procureurs généraux, ont entamé hier une série d'investigations judiciaires relatives à neuf affaires de corruption remontant au gouvernement de Zeid Rifai. Quatre jours seulement Chambre des députés.

Chose promise, chose due. Cheval de bataille de la plupart des candidats pendant la campagne des élections législatives de novembre dernier, la lutte contre la corruption au sein de l'appareil d'Etat est entrée hier dans sa phase active. Neuf cas ont été confiés par le ministère de la Justice à six juges, agissant en qualité de procureurs généraux.

Les magistrats ont été chargés d'enquêter sur les éventuelles suites judiciaires à donner à ces affaires, conformément au voeu exprimé mardi par la Chambre des députés. Les parlementaires étaient en effet prononcés, à la suite d'un vote à huis clos, pour le transfert à la justice de neuf dossiers, contenus dans un rapport de la commission des Finances.

Parmi eux, figure la vente secrète et illicite du tiers des réserves en or du Trésor en août et septembre 1988, sous le gouvernement de Zeid Rifai. Les autres cas instruits concernent plusieurs projets, alloués sans offre d'adjudication, telles les constructions du parc d'attraction de Jibeila, du complexe immobilier d'Abu Nuseir, ou encore de la prison de Swaqa. Sont également épingle-

ées, la "vente" de passeports et la commande de six Airbus A-320 par la compagnie aérienne nationale Royal Jordanian.

Les autorités ont cependant démenti vendredi les informations rapportées par la presse locale, selon lesquelles 27 personnalités politiques ou du monde des affaires seraient citées comme suspectes dans les différents documents et auraient été, pour certaines d'entre elles, priées de ne pas quitter le territoire national.

Le ministre de la Justice, Youssef Moubaydin, a cependant affirmé que toutes les personnes impliquées dans des crimes de corruption seront poursuivies et condamnées.

«Ces memorandum prévoient notamment: de courtes visites mutuelles de responsables de nos établissements respectifs et des échanges d'enseignements du plus longue durée», précise Alain Bony. Objectif de cette première phase: permettre dans un deuxième temps aux trois universités d'envoyer des étudiants en France et en Jordanie.

«Nous prévoyons de leur proposer des cours d'été, ou même de les intégrer, pour des périodes variables, dans les cursus normaux. Avec la possibilité de faire valider ces voyages dans leurs cycles d'études», ajoute-t-il. A Lyon, les jeunes Jordaniens pourront ainsi être accueillis, soit au Centre international d'étude du

français (CIEF), soit directement à la faculté. «Ces accords devraient être finalisés en 1991, poursuit Joseph Dichy, quand seront réglés les problèmes de financement.

L'idée de ces échanges universitaires avait été évoquée dès 1989 par le président du Yarmouk, pris par son homologue de l'université de Jordanie à Amman quelques mois plus tard, lors de leurs passages dans la capitale de la région Rhône-Alpes. En contact étroit avec la région depuis de nombreuses années, via notamment la Maison de l'Orient Méditerranéen, l'université de Lyon a sauté sur l'occasion.

Une occasion, qui devrait d'ailleurs se traduire également pour les chercheurs français par une coopération archéologique avec l'université de Jordanie. «Il s'agit d'un ambitieux programme d'étude exhaustive des châteaux francs et musulmans du royaume, qui devrait s'étendre sur 10 ou 15 ans et mettre à contribution d'autres organismes, tel l'UNESCO», souligne Alain Bony.

A. R.

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### Universités de Lyon, du Yarmouk et d'Amman

### Vers plus de coopération

Le vice-président de l'université française Lumière Lyon II et le directeur de son département d'études arabes achèvent aujourd'hui une visite d'une semaine en Jordanie. Une visite de travail, qui a donné lieu à la signature de deux projets de coopération avec les universités du Yarmouk et de Jordanie.

Mission accomplie. Arrivés en Jordanie le 17 mars pour étudier les opportunités de coopération avec les facultés du Yarmouk et de Jordanie, le vice-président de l'université de Lyon II, Alain Bony, et le directeur de son département d'études arabes, Joseph Dichy, repartent aujourd'hui le chemin de la France avec peine deux protocoles d'accord.

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### EN BREF

Bloc. Huit députés jordaniens ont formé mardi dernier un nouveau groupement politique à la Chambre, sous le nom de «Bloc indépendant». Il s'agit du quatrième mouvement créé depuis les élections législatives de novembre 1989. Les autres formations sont le Bloc islamiste des Frères musulmans, le Bloc nationaliste et le Regroupement démocratique.

Devises. Le gouverneur de la banque centrale a annoncé lundi à Amman, que les réserves en devises du royaume atteignent actuellement la somme de 380 millions de dollars. Mohammad Naboulsi a notamment précisé qu'elles étaient de 500 millions de dollars fin décembre et que cette baisse était due à «l'acquittement par la Jordanie, à partir du début de l'année, de ses engagements financiers, conformément à l'accord conclu avec le Club de Londres». La dette jordanienne à l'égard de ce dernier, qui regroupe les principaux créanciers privés du pays, s'élève à 1,1 milliard de dollars.

Airbus. La Royal Jordanian (RJ) a pris livraison lundi du premier des six Airbus A-320, qu'elle avait commandés au consortium européen l'an dernier. La compagnie aérienne nationale du royaume devient ainsi la première du Moyen-Orient à être équipée d'un tel appareil. Client de l'Airbus depuis 1986, la RJ exploite déjà six A-310 et s'est engagée à acheter cinq A-340. Selon Airbus, la compagnie jordanienne compte utiliser ses A-320 pour étendre sa desserte du Moyen-Orient et du Golfe, ainsi que pour diversifier ses liaisons avec l'Europe.

Fonds palestinien. Le Conseil d'administration du Fonds national palestinien (FNP) s'est réuni vendredi à Bagdad pour étudier notamment les moyens de soutien au soulèvement dans les territoires occupés. Le président du FNP, Jowaid al-Ghossein: a également présenté un rapport sur les mesures à prendre pour combler le déficit du Fonds, dû au retard des pays arabes dans le règlement de leurs contributions financières. Au sommet d'Algérie, en 1988 ces derniers s'étaient engagés à verser une aide d'urgence de 128 millions de dollars à l'OLP et une assistance mensuelle de 43 millions en faveur de l'Intifada. M. al-Ghossein avait récemment indiqué que ce soutien «n'a pas dépassé les 150 millions de dollars» en 1989 et que seuls cinq pays (Arabie Saoudite; Koweït; Emirats; Irak et Libye), «honorent régulièrement leurs engagements financiers».

Message. Yasser Arafat s'adresse «prochainement» aux Israéliens par le canal de la télévision jordanienne captée dans l'Etat hébreu, a annoncé le pacifiste israélien Abbé Nathan dans une interview publiée lundi par «Davar», le quotidien de la centrale syndicale Histadrout. Selon M. Nathan, qui a récemment rencontré les dirigeants de l'OLP à Tunis, Yasser Arafat pourrait prononcer un discours chaleureusement pacifique à l'adresse de l'opinion israélienne. Il devrait notamment mentionner que «il est temps d'abattre les murs de la haine et de la guerre». Sous-titré en hébreu, ce discours sera diffusé dans le cadre d'une émission spéciale de la JTVA.

Patriarche. Mgr Torkom Manoukian, prélat arménien de nationalité américaine, a été élu jeudi patriarche de Jérusalem. Mgr Manoukian remplace à ce poste Mgr Yeghiche Derderian, décédé le 1er février dernier à l'âge de 83 ans. Le patriarche arménien de Jérusalem compte environ 10.000 fidèles, répartis entre Israël, la Ville Sainte, les territoires occupés et la Jordanie, où vivent environ 60% d'entre eux.

indépendance. Les pays de la Communauté économique européenne (CEE) ont salué jeudi l'accession de la Namibie à l'indépendance et réaffirmé leur volonté de fournir leur assistance au futur développement économique et social» du nouvel Etat, né dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi derniers. Un Etat d'ores et déjà reconnu par de nombreux pays, dont les Etats-Unis et la France. Paris a notamment invité dès mercredi le président namibien Sam Nujoma à participer au prochain sommet franco-africain, qui se tiendra en juin à Vittel (Est de la France).

Elections. Quelque 7,6 millions de Hongrois sont appelés à se rendre aux urnes aujourd'hui, pour les premières élections législatives libres organisées dans le pays depuis 40 ans. Ils ont à choisir 386 députés parmi les candidats de douze partis. Selon les observateurs, le scrutin devrait déboucher sur la formation d'une coalition de centre-droit pour succéder au gouvernement actuel, dirigé par les anciens communistes convertis au socialisme depuis l'automne. Le basculement à droite, si il se produisait, serait le deuxième du genre, après la victoire dimanche dernier en RDA de l'Alliance pour l'Allemagne; coalition soutenue par le parti du chancelier ouest-allemand Helmut Kohl.

Collabo. La justice française a ouvert mercredi à Paris une enquête pour crime contre l'humanité à l'encontre de René Bousquet, 80 ans, qui fut secrétaire général de la police nationale sous l'occupation nazie. Des associations de déportés ou d'enfants de déportés lui reprochent d'avoir concouru à la rafle dite du «Vel d'hiv» en juillet 1942, au cours de laquelle 13.000 juifs, dont 4.000 enfants, furent arrêtés par les autorités françaises puis livrés aux nazis, qui les déportèrent dans les camps de concentration. Trente d'entre eux seulement survécurent. En 1979, Bousquet avait été contraint de démissionner du conseil d'administration de la banque d'Indochine et de Suez à la suite d'accusations dès cette époque par l'avocat «chasseur de nazis» Serge Klarsfeld.

Contrat. La société française ETPM, filiale du groupe GTM-Entrepôts, vient de rece

Philippe Noiret, acteur européen 1989

## Un cancre devenu star

Il a commencé sur les planches il y a 40 ans et tourné 101 films. En trente ans de cinéma, il a campé une foule de personnages. A 59 ans, l'acteur français Philippe Noiret vient d'être sacré "acteur européen de l'année 1989".

Né en 1931 dans le nord de la France, Philippe Noiret n'avait rien du protégé de comédien. Il s'est lancé dans ce métier, parce qu'il ne savait rien faire d'autre. «J'étais un cancre renvoyé de tous les lycées, se souvient-il. Trois fois recalé au baccalauréat! Il me fallait donc trouver un endroit où n'exigeant pas de diplôme. Artiste donc! Ne sachant ni écrire, ni peindre, ni sculpter, j'ai choisi la comédie».

Apprenti-acteur à 20 ans, il réussit à se faire engager au Théâtre National Populaire du prestigieux Jean Vilar. Il y restera 8 ans. A jouer les barbons, la plupart du temps. Au rythme de 10 heures par jour, 11 mois sur 12. «Ce fut une école formidable, qui m'a laissé le souvenir d'un accomplissement, d'un épousonnement», raconte Noiret.

Il a 25 ans, quand commence pour lui l'aventure cinématographique. Il tourne alors dans «La Pointe courte» d'Agnes Varda, l'une des réalisatrices précurseur de la "nouvelle vague". Quatre ans plus tard, il conquiert le grand public avec le personnage cocasse de "Tonton" dans "Zazie dans le Métro" de Louis Malle.

Dès lors, il enchaîne film sur film: «Thérèse Desqueyroux» de Franju (1962); «La Vie de Château» de Rappeneau (1965); «Alexandre le Bonheureux» d'Yves Robert (1968), qui en fait un savoureux épicien campagnard. Il interprète ensuite le père tourmenté d'un fils meurtri dans «L'Horiger de Saint-Paul» de Tavernier (1974), puis un magistrat dans «Le Juge et l'Assassin», du même réalisateur (1976). Ce dernier lui confie encore le rôle du Régent, humain et sans illusion, dans «Que la Fête Commence» (1976).

Sa performance, au côté de Romy Schneider dans «Le Vieux Fusil d'Enrico, lui vaut le César du meilleur acteur en 1977. Le talent multiforme de Noiret retient l'attention bien au delà des frontières hexagonales. Le maga-

zine américain "Times" va ainsi jusqu'à le proclamer "meilleur acteur du monde", la même année.

Les réalisateurs étrangers eux aussi se tournent vers lui. Il tourne pour Litvak dans «La Nuit des Générals» et pour de Sica dans «Sept fois Femme». Hitchcock l'engage pour «L'Etau», Cukor pour «Justines», Ferreri pour «La Grande Bouffe». Il joue encore dans «La Famille de Scorsese et dans «Les Lunettes d'Or» de

Camille Hérisson.



Plus de 75% de sa population vit en ville

## La France, pays de citadins

Révolution industrielle oblige, la France a connu en deux siècles des mutations démographiques d'une ampleur exceptionnelle. Nation rurale au XVIIIe siècle, elle est devenue un pays de citadins. Plus de trois Français sur quatre habitent aujourd'hui dans les villes.

En deux cents ans, la France n'a pas seulement changé. Elle s'est radicalement transformée. Sa population a non seulement doublé, passant de 28 millions à quelque 56 millions, mais elle a

également vu sa répartition géographique se modifier profondément. A l'origine de cette évolution: les migrations massives des Français vers les centres urbains, provoquées par la révolution industrielle du siècle passé. Une révolution, dont les effets se font encore sentir aujourd'hui.

Ces mouvements de population de la campagne vers la ville ont contribué à donner au pays une allure que ne reconnaîtrait plus aujourd'hui le Français de 1789. Notamment le Parisien. Sous la Révolution, l'Ile de France (autrement dit la région parisienne) ne comptait guère plus de 1,3 million d'âmes, soit moins de 5% de la population nationale. Aujourd'hui, quelque 10,3 millions de Français s'y entassent. Au point d'en faire la région la plus peuplée de l'Hexagone.

Deux cents ans ont suffit pour multiplier la population de ce secteur géographique par huit. Un record national, dû notamment au prodigieux développement des activités administratives

Le phénomène: le plus spectaculaire à cet égard reste la croissance des grandes villes, qui de nos jours débordent largement de leurs limites communales pour



Le quartier de la Défense, aux portes de Paris, témoigne de l'essor spectaculaire des villes en France.

dans la capitale, où la plupart des entreprises ont installé leurs sièges. Dans le même temps, les banlieues se sont transformées en immenses zones industrielles, à la faveur du réseau ferroviaire construit au XIXe siècle et disposé en étoile autour de Paris.

De même la région Rhône-Alpes et sa "capitale" Lyon ont vu leur population tripler, passant de 1,8 million à plus de 5 millions, avec l'installation de complexes industriels dans la vallée du fleuve Rhône. Quant à la région Provence-Côte d'Azur (sud-est du pays), qui n'atteignait que le million d'habitants en 1790 (la ville de Nice, non encore française à l'époque, y compris), elle en affiche quatre fois plus, pétrochimie et tourisme obligeant.

### Exode rural

Toutes les régions françaises n'ont pas bénéficié d'un tel essor, loin s'en faut. Ainsi du Sud-Ouest, du Centre et de l'Ouest, privés d'industrialisation soutenue, qui ont souffert d'un très fort exode rural. La région Médi-

teraine, en partie ulcérée le cas de Paris. En 1790, la ville ne comptait que 547 000 habitants, alors qu'elle en totalise actuellement quelque 2 millions, intra muros, et plus de 9 millions, si l'on englobe son agglomération. De même Lyon ou Marseille, qui abritaient l'une et l'autre un peu plus de 100 000 habitants à la Révolution et qui en comptent respectivement 400 000 et 900 000. Leurs agglomérations dépassent également le million depuis quelques années.

A la fin du XVIIIe siècle, ces trois cités étaient les seules du pays à dépasser les 100 000 habitants. On en dénombre 36 à la fin du XIXe siècle. L'urbanisation de la France est encore plus évidente si l'on compare le nombre des villes de plus de 20 000 habitants.

en 1790, on en recensait 28. Il y en avait 389 en 1989.

Rémy Arnaud.

(+) Est citadine en France, la population des communes de plus de 2.000 habitants.

## Livre

### "Arafat, un destin pour la Palestine"

Montaldo. Ses deux dernières apparitions à l'écran ont encore fait mouche. Qu'il s'agit de «La Vie et Rien d'Ailleurs» de Tavernier ou «Cinéma Paradiso» de l'italien Tornatore, dans lequel il campe un vieux projectionniste dans une petite ville de Sicile.

Noiret raffole des personnages fragiles. Quant à son métier, il estime que sa difficulté réside dans la recherche entre une certaine confiance en soi et le doute nécessaire pour rester lucide. «La virtuosité ne doit jamais éloigner de l'essentiel, qui est la vérité de l'homme, la sincérité», insiste-t-il.

Camille Hérisson.

Cette «étrange épope» d'un fils de marchand de fromages de la banlieue du Caire, harponné par un destin national, révèle un homme «secret, pudique, qui parle plus volontiers du fracas des nations que de ses sentiments», assure l'auteur, qui n'a pas résisté au «mythe Arafat». Son récit mêle en effet souvent à l'histoire de l'homme, la légende qu'en racontent ses compagnons de route.

Rémi Favret démontre par ailleurs qu'Arafat, «monstre cynique» pour les Israéliens, «père de la nation, respecté et aimé» pour les Palestiniens, a eu raison de s'enterrer. Il a d'abord forcé les pays arabes, puis la communauté internationale, à reconnaître à des degrés divers les droits légitimes du peuple palestinien. (D'après agences)

"Arafat, un destin pour la Palestine" de Rémi Favret. Ed. Renaudot (323 pages). 115 francs.

# A L'AFFICHE

## FOCUS

### La Maison des Bani Hamida

C'est en 1985 que l'organisation humanitaire américaine "Save the Children", sollicite les femmes de la tribu des Bani Hamida pour organiser et développer le commerce de leurs tapis.

Aujourd'hui, 587 tapis sont exposés en permanence et sont renouvelés au rythme d'une quarantaine de nouvelles pièces par semaine. Les tapis sont vendus au poids, à un premier prix de 17,5 JD le kilo. Les étrangers sont les principaux acheteurs, mais les Jordaniens, après avoir boudé une production trop traditionnelle à leur goût, sont de plus en plus sensibles à l'effort de modernisation.

Les ventes sont de plus en plus nombreuses et "la Maison des Bani Hamida" semble prête à voler de ses propres ailes à partir de 1991, après 5 ans de collaboration avec "Save the Children".

F.M.

## EXPOSITIONS

Peinture. La Fondation Shoman présente les œuvres de sept peintres irakiens: Shaker Hassan al-Sa'idi; Salim al-Dabagh; Rafi al-Nassiri; Sa'adi al-Ka'b'i; Ali Taleb; Mohammad Mahrudin et Ismail Fatah.

Centre culturel et scientifique de la Fondation Shoman (Shmeissine), jusqu'au 17 mars. Entrée libre.

Peinture. Le peintre palestinien Ahmad Nawash expose ses toiles au centre culturel français. Douleur de l'exil. CCF, jusqu'au 8 avril. Entrée libre.

Peinture. Né à Jérusalem en 1954, Esam Tantawi fait partie des artistes les plus en vue en Jordanie. Il signe une œuvre originale, dans laquelle se mêlent à l'inspiration ses expériences de graphiste et de photographe.

Galerie d'art Alia (premier cercle, Djebel Amman), jusqu'au 1er avril, de 9h00 à 17h30 et de 15h00 à 18h00. Entrée libre. Tel: 639303.

Tissage. En coopération avec l'organisation humanitaire "Save the Children", la tribu des Bani Hamida présente une exposition-vente de tapis traditionnels faits main.

Maison des Bani Hamida (Djebel Amman, près du cinéma Rainbow), jusqu'au 23 mars de 8h00 à 18h00. Tel: 636696.

## THEATRE

"Le Témoin", pièce de théâtre arabe pour les enfants, proposée par l'Association des artistes jordaniens.

Grand Théâtre du centre culturel royal, mercredi 28 mars à 16h00. Renseignements au 669426.

## JEUX

### Mots croisés

Par Florence Montell

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									

Horizontalement,

1: jeu; 2: die; 3: la Seine; 4: brûler Rome; 5: capturées; 6: de messe; 7: ville flamande; 8: à brûlé; 9: n'agit pas; 10: on y circule; rougeur; 11: adjetif possessif; 12: recouvre l'oreiller; 13: à suivre; 14: intervalle de musique; 15: supportent les bœufs de golf; 16: n'avotent pas; 17: spécialité.

(Solutions le samedi prochain)

### Solution de la grille N. 2

Horizontalement.

A: boulevard; B: oraison; C: artificiel. Cela; épices; D: lit; E: espérance; F: roi; tu; G: incertitude; H: ici; I: été; J: décapitées.

Verticalement.

A: vision; B: se jetta dans le

conjonction de coordination. C: on y

agit pas; 6: on y circule; rougeur; 7:

adjectif possessif; 8: recouvre l'oreiller;

9: intervalle de musique; 10:

supportent les bœufs de golf; 11:

n'avoient pas; 12: spécialité.

(dp/11/25/15)

## CINEMA

## TELEVISION

DIMANCHE

17h50 - Tel Pére, Tel Fils: sitcom à la française avec Jacques Balutin.

18h15 - L'Ecole des Fans, émission pour les jeunes, animée par Jacques Martin. Invitée: Mireille Mathieu.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Aujourd'hui en France: magazine culturel.

LUNDI

17h30 - La Face de l'Ogre, avec Annie Duprey. Dans un village isolé des Alpes suisses, une femme attend vainement son mari, victime de la montagne...

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

MARDI

18h10 - Des Chiffres et des Lettres: jeu.

18h30 - L'Appart: sitcom à la française.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Saleh Madi.

MERCREDI

18h00 - Aventures Voyages: promenade dans les méandres du Rio Loco en Espagne.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Variétés francaises.

JEUDI

18h05 - Tel Pére, Tel Fils: sitcom avec Jacques Balutin.

## Books and books everywhere but life is tough for university students

THE SECOND semester is coming to an end but most textbooks for students at the University of Jordan have not arrived yet. The books that are available are too expensive, beyond the reach of the average student. Officials blame high cost of imported books and bookshops complain of unsold stock while students themselves say the responsibility lies with the university administration and professors as well as private importers of books. **Saeida Khamis** summarises the situation:

**AMMAN** — Bookshops, or "libraries" as they are called in local parlance, are only a natural feature around any institution of higher education, but there is a marked difference here in Amman near the University of Jordan; they make more money with their photocopies than by selling pens and notebooks. How and why? The answer is simple: The non-availability of essential text books makes it incumbent on the students to photocopy the rare ones that are available.

Many students say they end up spending most of their pocket money and their time on photocopying. "Between lectures and during my free time, I cannot think but of photocopying; it is really frustrating when the photocopying machines at the campus are overcrowded and one has to leave the university to do it," Aminah Al Ashi of the English department said. "Moreover," she added, "it is frustrating not to find any book and to have to photocopy bits and pieces from any text book."

However, students seem to be not the only ones to suffer. Professors also complain of non-availability of essential books and attribute part of the problem to what they describe as the inefficiency of the university's bookstore, operated by a private contractor under a concession, which in turn blames the teaching staff of not preparing lists of required books well in advance.

A professor in the Faculty of Arts criticised the overall system. "For two consecutive years, I have not been able to get any book, and the students keep photocopying the material from several books... leaving a gap in the daily system and creating a state of chaos," he said.

### High costs

Sharbi says the bookstore offers an 11 per cent discount on all books. "Many times we try to warn the teachers of the high cost of the books they want; yet some of them insist on the same order," Sharbi said.

### Negligence of teachers

Fadi Sharbi, manager of the university's campus bookstore, blames "teaching staff's negli-

gence to submit a list of the required books before the beginning of the semester" for the shortcoming.

"Professors should give us lists of required books at least three months before the semester begins," Sharbi told the Jordan Times. "This will enable us to initiate the process of import in time for the students to have the books before the actual courses begin," he said. "Most of the professors' lists do not arrive on time, and sometimes they do not arrive at all. And students blame us for non-availability of books. How can we import books in time unless we know which ones to order? In addition, sometimes books are out of stock and professors do not give us time to reorder; they just want the books quickly."

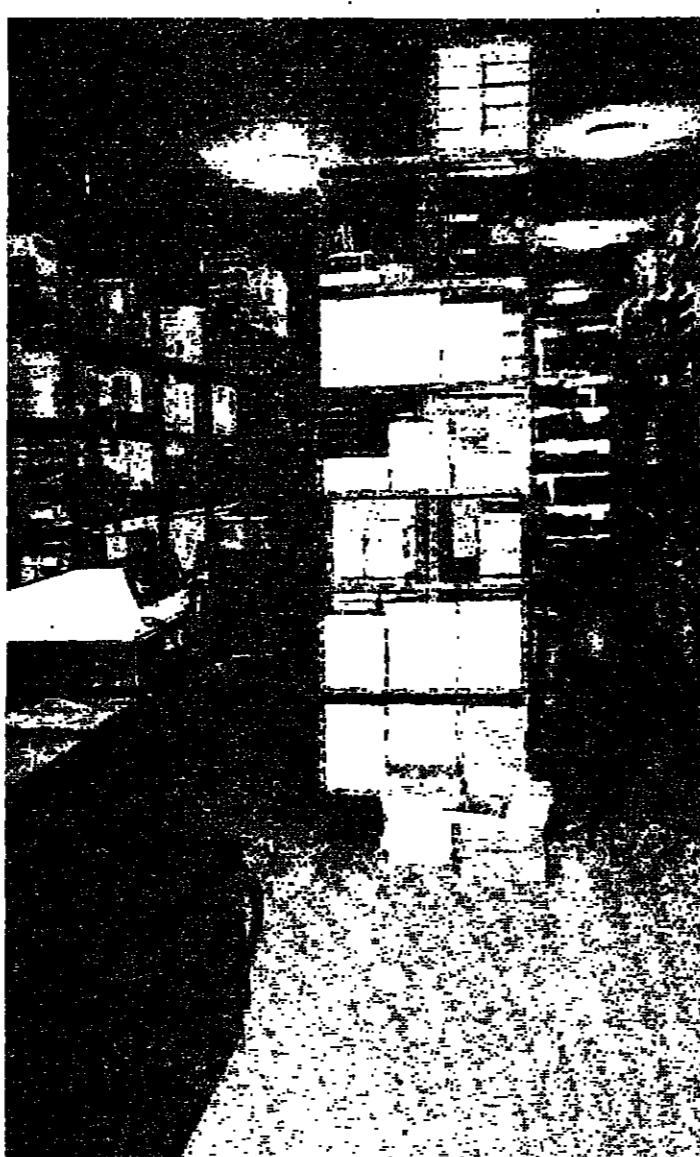
"Students keep nagging us with the same question, asking whether a particular book has arrived or not. There seems to be no way to make them understand that it is not our fault, and that it is the professor himself who did not order or he was late in delivering the list," he added.

A group of students at the Faculty of Arts and the science department complained that the professors provide them with a list of textbooks scheduled for a certain course without paying attention to availability or price. "Sometimes," said one of the students, "we have to appear for the second-term examination with almost no material in hand."

Two students from the Faculty of Nursing complained about the high costs of their textbooks. Twice in a row, the students were obliged to pay JD 31 each for two books.

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The bookstore in the University of Jordan campus complains that it has ended up piles of unsold books; either the books are too expensive for the students or they are not the right ones (photo by Saeida Khamis)

said. "Little regard is given to the fact that the same contents appear in two different books — for instance Basic Genetics: one book cost JD 21, while Principles of Genetics costs JD 6.750. In essence, the contents of both are the same."

Consequently, he explained, students tend to photocopy expensive books from the professor, leaving piles of unsold books in the store, leading to "substantial losses."

Mahmoud Al Samra, president of the university, admits that some of the teaching staff are negligent in sending their lists to the bookstore in time.

"Professors must not oblige the students to buy books which are not available in the bookstore or in the local market," he said. As for the high costs of books, the university administration could not comply

stipulates that the distributor import books specialised for students; and they are the cheapest of all.

"Yet, one must take into consideration that nowadays book prices are high due to the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar and the enormous increase of the cost of papers," the university president said.

In a leaflet issued recently at the university, student organisations, represented by Badawi Bitar, demanded that the university administration take over the entire book supply system since, it said, the private-owned bookstore within the campus did not protect the interests of the students and monopolised the trade.

But Samra said the university administration could not comply

with the call. "We were in charge of the bookshop in the beginning, but the experience ended in failure and we lost tens of thousands of dinars."

According to the president, the university's budget is limited, "and we can't afford another loss." However, he said, if the administration finds that the contractor is "manipulating or monopolising it will annul the contract and launch legal proceedings against him."

### A suggested solution

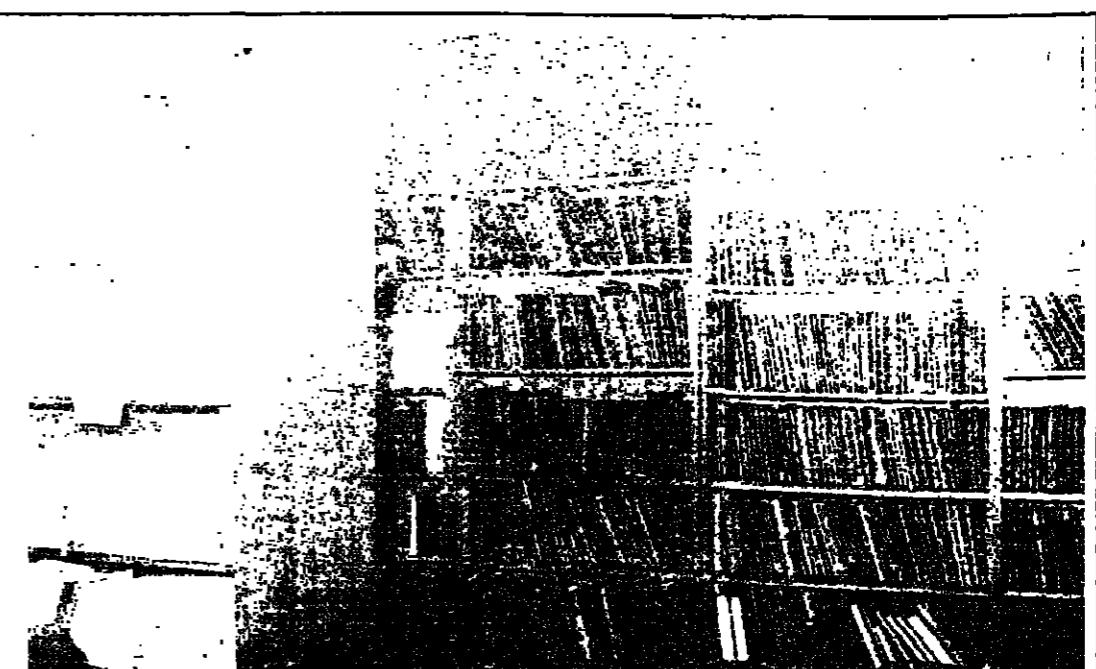
Mohammad Adnan Al Bakheet, vice president of the university, said he was acutely aware of the problems of text books since he has served as head of the library for some years. "I admit there is a problem and I know its dimension, and I see how much trouble the students take in order to get text books," he said.

"The students should form a committee entrusted with the solving of the problem of text books," he said. "The committee's main task should be collecting old books from students. These books should be sold to new students at low prices. In some cases, photocopies could be made and bound as original books."

"The second essential thing is that departments must be urged to send their lists to the bookshop six months in advance in order to solve the other part of the problem," he said.

Another major point raised by students was that many professors insist that books authored by them be part of the curricula, thus obliging the students to buy them. "In theory, this is unethical since university regulations stipulate that professors should not use their own books as the formally accepted basic material for teaching," said a commerce department student. "There are many books on the same subject, but the professor decides that his book should be the only material for the examination," added the student.

When this complaint was brought to his attention, Samra said any professor following such a practice should be brought before a disciplinary committee. "The students should file complaints in this regard with the dean of student affairs and we will certainly follow them up and adopt the necessary action," he said.



There are enough libraries in Jordan, and the Jordan Library Association says that the public awareness of how to properly use them should be increased (File photo)

## Libraries — inevitable hazard for some, vital for others

By Nur Sati  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

AMMAN — Walk into any library in Jordan. The sight is quite impressive; men and women of all ages appear engrossed in their material, other people queuing and checking out more books than they can carry, and others scanning the shelves from top to bottom, not to mention those hooked on the computers or catalogue files.

But, taking a closer look, a boy in his middle teens is heard complaining to his school friend, "I hate libraries. I can't wait until my exams are over; then I don't have to see a library for a long time."

This young boy, like many boys and girls, uses the libraries only when he has a school assignment.

"What the public does not understand is the importance of the role of libraries to the society," says Anwar Akroush, president of the Jordan Libraries Association (JLA). It is one of the key places for advancement through research, he adds.

Through JLA activities Akroush hopes to change this mentality into making people take advantage of the extensive uses of a library.

So what does JLA do? Since its establishment in 1963, JLA has fought hard to create an awareness throughout the society. With its current 595 members spread through 125 organisations, the association has been developing library services by improving standards. This means a

wide selection of subjects for all ages, periodicals and languages, etc., but Akroush could not say how many books there were in each subject category.

"That is one of our several objectives," Akroush said. JLA will be conducting surveys to determine what books are needed, what is already in the country and to know where Jordan stands in the field of books, he said.

According to Akroush, JLA is also establishing good relations with international and Arab firms so that the flow of books, publications and translations remain a two-way traffic.

Through its relationship with outside associations, JLA is able to participate in book exhibitions in the Arab World where "we are able to show our publications," according to Akroush. In 1965 a "message of library" was published, which was the first in the Arab World and was considered a major source for library and library science, he said.

Another important publication was a translation of "Anglo-American Cataloguing," which was seen as the Bible of a librarian. Additionally, "Introduction to Library and Information Science," which concentrated on technical services in a library, was added.

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According to Akroush, JLA is trying to overcome the problem by establishing more libraries throughout Jordan and donating a copy of every book published by JLA to each library.

"In this manner, we would also be supporting Jordanian writers," he adds.

Another mission of the JLA is to translate "online searching" which is considered of great importance and was confirmed by a study tour in Baghdad. Akroush said that JLA is trying to push for copyright protection and write a draft "library legislation" to organise the profession.

One of the most important aims is to resume a national bibliography which was started in 1979 but was stopped in 1985. "Now, we have begun to collect information since 1986, hoping to publish the bibliography in 1991," Akroush says.

Is this enough to make people more interested in reading and in frequenting libraries?

Although it may take a long time, Akroush hopes that JLA's efforts in cooperation with public, university and special libraries, will contribute to enhancing the awareness of the population towards reading and using libraries.

## Jordan's 'adopted' school class in U.S. seeks penpals here

EVERY year the Jordan Information Bureau participates in the Washington "Embassy Adoption Programme" through which Jordan "adopts" a sixth grade public school class to introduce them to the history, land and people of the Kingdom. The teachers are provided with a variety of printed and visual materials about Jordan and meetings are held with the class to talk to the students about life in Jordan and the Arab World. Following is a letter that the Jordan Times received from the Kingdom's adopted class this year:

Dear Children of Jordan,

This year our sixth grade class has been "adopted" by Jordan, so that we can learn all about your country. The Jordan Information Bureau in Washington has provided our teacher, Mrs. Greene, with magazines, books, posters and photographs of Jordan, and every week we have a special class about the history, culture and traditions of your country. We are even learning the Arabic alphabet and have been taught how to write our names in Arabic.

We are writing to you now to see if we can have some pen pals in Jordan. We are between 11 and 12 years old and would love to correspond with Jordanian children of our age, in English of course! We want to tell you all about our life here and learn from you all about your life there.

Please write soon to the address below.

With all best wishes,

The Students of Mrs. Carrie Greene  
Syrinx Elementary School  
Half and "N" Streets, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024  
U.S.A.



Students included in the embassy adoption programme are given a taste of the culture and various other aspects of life in the adopting country

## Embassy adoption programme receives American recognition

THE EMBASSY Adoption Programme, sponsored by the Washington Performing Arts Society since 1974, has been recognised by the U.S. Office of Education as an outstanding programme for 1987-88. In addition, the programme was a finalist in a national competition sponsored by the National Council of Social Studies, as one of two outstanding social studies programmes in D.C. public schools.

The programme coordinates the "adoption" of sixth grade students in D.C. public schools, by one of 47 host countries. Films, printed materials and guest speakers acquaint the classes with the country and its religion. At the end of each semester, the Washington Performing Arts Society provides transportation for the children to visit the embassy of their adopted country, where skits, poems and folk dances are given by the children.

Mrs. Greene comments, "This is a unique 'hands-on' opportunity involving the young people directly

in the learning process, and giving them the chance to improve their public speaking skills, artistic talents, and musical abilities. In addition, the programme exposes the students not only to the function of an embassy, but to a culture they would not otherwise be privileged to see close up... a chance to look at worldwide problems from a new perspective." It is interesting to note that many children have also been invited to National Day celebrations, attended cultural performances at the Kennedy Centre, with one class even travelling to their "adopted" country, Czechoslovakia.

Last year Saudi Arabia was the adopted country for the sixth grade class of Mrs. June Gills at Truedell Elementary School at 9th and Graham Streets, N.W. Embassy representatives visited the class, set up a tent with a Saudi environment, took pictures of each child in their native dress, and taught them how to write their names in Arabic. "This was

If you would like additional information about the Embassy Adoption Programme, call Susan B. Deering, Director, at 262-2365.

an experience in the real social world and the class was fascinated. After the visit the class started to find newspaper stories about Saudi Arabia and her neighbours [which led] to discussions concerning problems in the Middle East, and the involvement of the United States in the Persian Gulf." Principal Katie L. Jones agrees that "it is one of the most interesting and functional programmes [that she has] participated in during recent years in the D.C. Schools."

At the end of the school year, a mini United Nations is held with "ambassador" representatives from each class debating current issues. For a second year, the Washington Performing Arts Society will provide transportation for 47 Mini U.N. student "ambassadors" to visit the U.N. mission in New York City.

If you would like additional information about the Embassy Adoption Programme, call Susan B. Deering, Director, at 262-2365.

We hear: "I get a beautiful signal," and silence pervades the room. Everybody is intent

## Searching the soul of a Palestinian-American poet/writer in Texas

By Ica Wahbeh  
*Jordan Times Staff Writer*

AMMAN — There is some crackling, whizzing and busting and everybody has a last-minute thing to prepare. The atmosphere is charged, the expectations are running high, the enthusiasm is contagious.

It is a first time for everybody; a first time for a school in the Kingdom and 49 teenagers are gathered in the packed classroom, waiting.

The teens are treating it with the seriousness it deserves. It is a soul-to-soul communication via telephone with Washington D.C., with Naomi Shihab Nye, a contemporary poet with roots in the Arab World. The youngsters are students of the National Orthodox School. The enthusiastic guidance of their teacher of English, Rula B. Quawas, and the blessing of Adel Abassi, the school principal, and other school officials made it possible for the "kids" (as Quawas affectionately calls them) to ask, search for symbols and meanings, be shy or inquisitive, and probe into the poetry of Naomi Shihab Nye.

Born of a Palestinian father and an American mother, Nye grew up in Texas where she graduated from Trinity University in San Antonio. She was introduced to the life of a writer early (her father was one of the few Americans of Arab ancestry working as an editor of a major daily newspaper). She chose writing because, as she says, "...nothing else has provided the same discovery, focus or comfort that writing does."

We hear: "I get a beautiful signal," and silence pervades the room. Everybody is intent

on listening, and the questions start flowing:

"Are you proud of being a Palestinian or of being bicultural?" is the first one. "Both" is the answer. Pressed further, Nye admits that being "bicultural" (which in no way would negate being a Palestinian) has always been important to her. "Perhaps being bicultural helped me maintain some sense of 'otherness' or detachment. While I was growing up in the United States, there was a quiet, old-world part of me which stood back and observed."

The 17-year olds are mature, critical, reverential aggressive. Questions touch on stylitics (Q: "Why poems without rhyme?" A: "Just because the sounds fit it doesn't mean the meaning fits"), language (Q: "Why is your language at times slang, at others bookish, standard?" A: "Sometimes I feel colloquial, others more poetic. I experiment"), inspiration ("I believe in inspiration. But it doesn't come from outside. I very often begin with tangible things, not ideas. In life we are given so much that when we write we try to give back some of the gifts."), poetic creed (Q: "Do you believe in what you write or do you write to satisfy your readers?" A: "I would never write to satisfy someone if I didn't believe in it. Of

course by being true to yourself do you hope for some chain of satisfaction"). Existentialist, practical, idealistic, the questions pour in:

"Do you think a dream must be shared to become reality?" "Did you have difficulties in publishing your works?"

"Do you believe the Indians are the original inhabitants of America?"

"It's amazing to know what things trouble the youngsters' minds! Never will I treat them lightly."

Asked if she was exposed to Arabic poetry, Nye answered "yes" and mentioned Tawfiq Zayad. In the same vein, but on a more personal note, she was asked if her son would be exposed to the Arabic culture. She said he would as her roots were still here. The poem "Sitti Khadra" talks about her grandmother who still lives in Palestine.

Questions are many but I would quote the writer to best conclude it all:

"It seems all writers are engaged in the building of bridges — from one page to another, from writer to reader. Maybe bicultural writers who are actively conscious

## Kuwait approves \$2b petrochemical complex

**KUWAIT (R)** — Kuwait's top planners Saturday approved a \$2 billion petrochemical complex aimed at increasing the Gulf state's revenue by boosting exports of refined products.

Officials said the Supreme Planning Council, headed by Crown Prince Saad Al Abdallah Al Sabah, approved the eight-plant complex after a three-hour meeting to review final plans.

Diplomats in Kuwait from several industrial nations were closely watching the outcome of Saturday's session. The project is expected to be open to international bidding.

The council has approved the project," council secretary general Fouad Mulla Hussein told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

Officials told Reuters the council, whose endorsement was crucial,

cial, approved the project after Oil Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah addressed questions raised at a meeting earlier this month.

Initial support for the project had already been expressed by the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the crown prince, the cabinet and the Higher Petroleum Council, officials said.

The complex will produce low and high density polyethylene, ethylene glycol, polystyrene, styrene monomer, styrene butadiene and aromatics.

Officials said it would spawn several associated industries and reduce Kuwait's dependence on crude exports.

Kuwait, one of the world's largest oil exporters, has spent some \$10 billion on 15 petrochemical plants and two industrial cities to capture between four and five per cent of the world market.

petrol stations in Europe. Last week it announced the purchase of Mobil Oil-Italana S.p.A. for some \$300 million.

The deal includes a 100,000 barrel per day (b/d) refinery in Naples, an adjoining aromatics plant and about 2,000 service stations, raising Kuwait's share of the Italian distribution network to 10.5 per cent from 3.5 per cent.

Kuwait sells some 40 per cent of its crude as refined products and hopes to join its Gulf Arab ally and OPEC partner Saudi Arabia in building an advanced petrochemical industry.

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## Overseas expansion blurs origin of Japanese cars

**SUZUKA, Japan (AP)** — Robots resembling elephant trunks and grates snake their way around half-assembled Hondas, spewing showers of sparks as they weld steel frames and produce a car in just 14 hours.

Only in Japan? no, an identical factory is churning out Hondas in Ohio. Thousands of those U.S.-built Hondas will be shipped to Japan, and thousands more of the Japan-built Hondas will be sold in the United States.

"Global" is the theme in Japan's thriving auto industry. Honda, Toyota and Nissan are building more cars abroad and slowly blurring the national origin of automobiles, historically one of the most powerful symbols of a country's manufacturing might.

The strategy makes sense to Japanese auto companies because it can defuse trade tensions. The strategy also places manufacturing and assembly closer to buyers, cutting costs. Ultimately, much of the profit still flows back to Japan.

"We do business according to our philosophy of manufacturing products in the market in which they are sold," says Honda senior managing director Shoichiro Iri-

moto. Localisation of research and production facilities "means you can become new supply bases for Honda's global sales channels."

Honda says it is ready to export U.S.-made Honda to Europe for the first time.

In labour-short Japan, no one grieves about exporting jobs. To fill labour needs the auto industry must hire part-timers, who can make more than \$2,700 a month, Irimajiri said during a tour of Honda's nine-month-old futuristic factory at Suzuka in central Japan.

The Suzuka plant claims to be Japan's most automated car factory. Individual carriers glide along silently, automatically raising or lowering the cars depending on the work done.

Workers wear white jumpsuits with slogans on them chest: "Aim for Zero Accidents" or "Avoid the Five Assembly Faults."

Late last year, a sister factory built from virtually the same blueprints went on line in Ohio—the latest addition to the so-called "transplant" shops.

Honda, the first Japanese automaker to build cars in the United States, has met with huge success.

Last year Americans bought more Honda Accords—60 per cent of them U.S.-made—than any other car. In late 1989 Honda was outselling Chrysler in the United States.

Flush with earnings from a booming domestic market, Japanese automakers are aggressively expanding overseas. Japanese production capacity is likely to top one million cars in the United States this year, and in Europe by 1998.

The Japanese are opening or expanding factories in the United States as American automakers lay off thousands of employees and close factories for weeks at a time because they can't sell enough cars.

Toyota foresees a 32 per cent surge in overseas production this year to 650,000 cars, and Mitsubishi Motors, which operates a joint-venture plant with Chrysler, forecasts overseas production up 33 per cent to 410,000. Honda's production abroad will be up 17 per cent to 525,000, Nissan's up seven per cent to 683,000 and Mazda's steady at 220,000.

Honda and Toyota are following Nissan's lead in building factories in Britain.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY MARCH 25, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** All kinds of chances are present today for you to see more clearly your own duties and obligations in a very unusual and different light and to settle on a course of action.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Don't try to settle any discussions but make a point to maintain a pace of your own that does not get in anyone else's way and keep smiling.

**TAUERUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You are thinking about ways to have a greater amount of worldly success and if you increase your vision you can do so with ease now.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Make a special point early to accept opportunity to cheer one who is having a difficult time, then you can make this person feel pleasant.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Inspired ideas for being able to do whatever your interests in a much more efficient and productive manner is now very possible.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) A highly personal day for you when you can set others know just what you have in mind and get full support from them.

**TODAY'S CHILD:** If your child were born today he or she will only respect a job well done and will have no interest in wishful thinking and plans which do not include a worthwhile expression of the same. This chart is excellent for laboratory or research work. An interest in music and the arts will need to be nourished.

## OPEC eyes E. Europe

**VIENNA, Austria (AP)** — As Eastern Europe lessens economic ties to the Soviet Union, it will offer the OPEC nations a promising market for their crude oil, analysts say.

Kuwait and other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) already are eyeing the newly independent Eastern European nations as potential customers for their products.

"They are certainly starting to become interested," said Joseph Stanislaw, managing director of Cambridge Energy Research Associates in Paris.

"It is a natural market for OPEC to go into," he said.

Peter Gigante, director of the International Energy Department at Shearson Lehman Hutton in London, said: "OPEC is going to be in there marketing the same as everybody else."

The Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer, has long been the dominant supplier of crude to its East Bloc allies.

But analysts expect its tight grip on the market will ease with the expiration next year of its multi-year oil contracts with many of those nations.

In negotiating new accords, analysts said Moscow was likely to raise its prices and demand payment in dollars or other "hard" currency. The East European countries now pay in Soviet roubles, a currency worthless outside the East Bloc, or by bartering equipment and other goods for oil.

"Once they're paying in hard currency, it's a whole new ball game," said Jan Vanous, research director at Planecon, a Washington consulting firm. "They'll start shopping around."

OPEC for the first time has a real shot at competing for the delivery of oil for domestic consumption," he said.

OPEC Secretary General Subroto said in a recent interview that a hard-currency requirement would prompt the countries to "look for convenience—which side can supply them at the best price and quality."

"I look upon Eastern Europe as a big potential (market) for OPEC," said Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi. "They are going to depend less and less on the Soviet Union."

Many predict demand for oil will increase in those countries as they convert from the centrally planned economies of their former communist rulers to the free-market models practiced in the West.

More emphasis may be placed on producing consumer goods. Automobile industries, often ignored in the past, may be targeted for improvements. More cars would lead to greater demand for gasoline.

"They must improve their economy... and that means they have to consume more energy," said Chalabi in an interview. "The only way to get that is from oil, and the only way to get that is from OPEC countries."

In a separate interview, Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said, "these countries have no other way—they must improve their consumption."

Pierre Terzian, editor of the Paris-based newsletter Petrostategies, said, "the model of consumption will change. There will be more energy consumption in some areas."

The East European countries also may want to line up other oil suppliers in case of disruptions or shortages in the Soviet Union, which is undergoing its own political and economic upheavals. For example, the southern Azerbaijani region, a recent target of ethnic strife, is a key producer of service equipment for the Soviet oil and gas industry.

## Oman aims to boost private sector role

**DUBAI (R)** — Oman aims to increase the role of its private sector but will maintain state spending to stimulate growth in the short term, the country's finance chief said.

"Government spending is still the major dynamic force for economic activity," said deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, Qais Ibn Abdul Monim Al Zawawi.

"At present the government is studying... what assets could be transferred to the private sector," he said in the latest bi-monthly central bank report.

Zawawi said that to qualify for greater public ownership, companies should be well managed, make a profit, and be registered on the Oman Stock Exchange.

"Government financial resources depend mainly on oil revenues, which make up 80 per cent of the 1990 total revenues," Zawawi said. "Therefore it was essential to base oil revenue estimates on a realistic assumption of oil prices."

He said the government's 1990 budget estimated the average annual price of a barrel of oil at \$15, compared to an actual

### ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

#### Greece raises interest rates

**ATHENS (AP)** — The Bank of Greece has raised minimum interest on savings accounts from 15 per cent to 16 per cent starting April 1, in a bid to cover payments to the public sector for April, an official announcement said Friday. The central bank said it had also ordered financial institutions to reduce lending and boost their stake in government bonds. Starting April 1 minimum interest on bank loans will rise by one percentage point, representing an increase from 17 per cent to 18 per cent on working capital and 16 to 17 per cent on mid-to-long-term loans. The bank said the moves, which also aimed to ease pressure on the balance of payments, may lead to further rises in interest rates. It said the new interest levels were determined by spiralling public sector deficits estimated at 2.5 trillion drachmas (\$15.6 billion) in 1990 and inflation of more than 14 per cent. From March 31, banks will increase from 39 per cent to 40 per cent the amount of deposits they invest in interest-bearing state bonds.

#### Iran raises gas reserve estimate

**NICOSIA (R)** — A senior official has estimated Iran's natural gas reserves at 17 trillion cubic metres, more than 20 per cent above the previous figure. Mohammad Esmail Karachan, managing director of the National Iranian Gas Company (NINGC), gave the new estimate in an interview published in Tehran's Abrar daily and quoted by the Iranian news agency IRNA. There was no explanation for the revision from the previous figure of 14 trillion cubic metres for Iran's gas reserves, the world's largest after those of the Soviet Union. Karachan said gas would play a bigger role in providing energy for the domestic market. The switch to natural gas would save Iran badly-needed hard currency on the balance of payments, may lead to further rises in interest rates. It said the new interest levels were determined by spiralling public sector deficits estimated at 2.5 trillion drachmas (\$15.6 billion) in 1990 and inflation of more than 14 per cent. From March 31, banks will increase from 39 per cent to 40 per cent the amount of deposits they invest in interest-bearing state bonds.

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#### Services and industries

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Per value
<b>Banking and financial institutions</b>					
Industrial Development Bank .....	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank .....	6578	23559	3.650	3.330	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank .....	47117	74023	1.590	1.570	1.000
Housing Bank .....	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank .....	150	488	3.350	3.250	1.000
Cairo American Bank .....	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan .....	176	2574	14.620	14.630	5.000
Arab Bank .....	1270	327700	254.000	255.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank .....	4100	10517	2.550	2.550	1.000
Arab Banking Corporation Bank (Jordan) .....	9438	21266	2.410	2.230	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank .....	221	724	3.450	3.200	1.000
National Portfolio Securities .....	2736	5514	2.000	2.000	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan) .....	3451	7824	2.270	2.260	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation .....	—	—	—	—	2.000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing .....	700	665	0.970	0.950	1.000

#### Services and industries

General Investments .....	—	—	—	—	1.000
Imaa for Investment and Financial Facilities .....	—	—	—	—	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment .....	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro) .....	55287	4			



Agassi getting ready to play tennis in the rain

## Agassi, Edberg to meet in Players' Championship final

**KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (R)** — Third-seeded Stefan Edberg overpowered Emilio Sanchez 6-1 and faces American fifth seed Andre Agassi in Sunday's final of the \$2.55 million International Players' Championship.

Spaniard Sanchez, seeded 15, eliminated top seed Ivan Lendl in the fourth round but he failed to put pressure on his Swedish semifinal opponent despite being a break up in the second set.

Agassi dropped the first set but roared back to overwhelm seventh-seeded compatriot Jay Berger 5-7.

It will be Agassi's third final of

the year. He won in San Francisco in February and lost to Edberg two weeks ago in the final at Indian Wells.

Agassi and Berger battled from the baseline during the first set, with Berger counter-punching and Agassi hitting the more aggressive winners.

Agassi led 3-2 when Berger, seeded 7th, dropped serve on a forehand error. Agassi then fought off five break points before holding for 5-2, but lost five consecutive games after that as Berger blazed winners and took the set 7-5 on an ace.

The momentum switched to Agassi's side of the court in the second set as he capitalised on Berger's frequent errors to take the set easily, with a lob.

Berger squandered opportunities at the start of the third set after holding for 1-0. Berger missed four break point opportunities to take a 2-1 lead and instead Agassi held and broke Berger for 2-1 in the next game.

Berger had his chances again with a break point against Agassi at 2-1. But Agassi saved it with a backhand winner and edged his way to 3-1.

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## Dutch coach plans injunction

**AMSTERDAM (R)** — Believers Dutch soccer coach Thijss Libregts is planning an injunction against the Dutch Soccer Association (KNVB) if they attempt to sack him before the World Cup finals, a KNVB spokesman said Saturday.

"If the players refuse to agree to him continuing as coach he is going to take out an injunction to demand the right to serve out his contract," Fred Rieck said.

Libregts' contract ends July 1, three weeks into the finals.

He has been repeatedly criticised by his leading players with injured skipper Ruud Gullit his most outspoken opponent, prompting considerable speculation that he would lose his job before the tournament.

The KNVB hoped to persuade Libregts and the players to meet in Amsterdam Sunday to thrash out their differences.

But Libregts is refusing to attend as the KNVB has not appointed a neutral chairman for the meeting.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIAH HIRSH

PENNY WISE, FOUND FOOLISH

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH	♦ Q 7 2
WEST	♦ 6
EAST	♦ A K J 10 8 4
SOUTH	♦ K 9 3
	♦ 8 4
	♦ K Q 10 9 5 3 2
	♦ 8 7 4
	♦ 9 6 2
	♦ 7 3
	♦ J
	♦ A Q 10 8 5
SOUTH	♦ A J 6 5 3
	♦ A J
	♦ Q 5
	♦ 7 6 4 2

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ 3 ♦  
3 ♦ 4 ♣ 4 ♣ Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦  
Preservation of your assets is commendable; only yesterday we lauded it as a virtue. But you can carry a good thing to excess, as this hand proves.

We want to congratulate East on his clever lead-directing bid of four

### Rainey leads Japanese Grand Prix

**SUZUKA, Japan (R)** — Wayne Rainey headed fellow American Kevin Schwantz in Saturday's final practice for Sunday's season-opening Japanese 500 cc motorcycle Grand Prix.

Yamaha rider Rainey, runner-up to Schwantz last year, clocked up the fastest time of two minutes 09.589 seconds, inside the track record.

"Everything is going well," reported Rainey, second in last year's world championship behind fellow Californian Eddie Lawson.

Schwantz had to settle for 2:10.329 on his Suzuki as rain prevented riders from improving their times in the final session.

The Texan qualified fastest nine times in the 15-round series last season.

Rainey's early form increases the pressure on Yamaha rider Lawson and Schwantz, who is bidding for his third successive win at his favorite Suzuka circuit.

Former world champion Wayne Gardner of Australia, forced to miss five races after breaking his left leg in the U.S. Grand Prix last April, took his Honda to third place in 2:10.446.

Lawson was fourth in 2:10.525; and Australian Michael Doohan, fifth with 2:11.167 on his Honda.

American John Cociuski headed 250 cc practice with 2:14.273.

Cinema

### RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

Dustin Hoffman  
Tom Cruise  
in

RAIN MAN

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema

### CONCORD

Tel: 677420

OVER  
BOARD



Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

### Moroccan, American win world running titles

**AIX-LES-BAINS, France (Agencies)** — Khalid Skah of Morocco trumped the Kenyan aces of cross country running to win the world title Saturday.

He attacked a Kenyan pack of front-runners on the last bend of the 12.2-kilometres course and held on in a close final sprint to give his country its first win in the event for more than 20 years.

Moses Tanui finished second in the same time of 34 minutes 21 seconds with Julius Korir, another Kenyan, third one second behind.

Four Kenyans finished in the top six, but John Ngugi, winner for the past four years and aiming for a record fifth title, was not among them.

He took the lead briefly after 10 minutes and delighted the crowd by cleanly clearing a hedge hurdler-style as the others stepped on in more conventional fashion.

But Ngugi, who started training for the race only two weeks ago after resting for a month after the Commonwealth Games, ran out of steam soon afterwards and dropped out of contention.

The women's 6-kilometres race was won by American Lynn Jennings who went away on her own early on to finish 12 seconds ahead of Portugal's Albertina Dias. Elena Romanova of the Soviet Union was third.

It was a first win for Jennings, who had placed in the first six at the last four world championships.

## N.Y. Yankees' owners under investigation

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A \$40,000 payment from New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner to an admitted gambler is under investigation by major League Baseball, commissioner Fay Vincent said Saturday.

"What I've said is that I am looking into those reports, gathering information," Vincent said in Sarasota, Florida. "But beyond that, I don't have anything to comment on."

Vincent made his comments as the gambler, Howie Spira, awaited arraignment at a Manhattan courthouse on charges he tried to extort money from Steinbrenner.

On Friday, a Tampa, Florida, grand jury indicted him on the extortion charge.

Spira has said Steinbrenner paid him \$40,000 to collect

damaging information on outfiel

der Dave Winfield finances that Steinbrenner could use in a legal battle with the star player.

But Steinbrenner, who admitt

ed making a payment Jan. 8 to

Spira, says that money was to help Spira straighten out his life.

Steinbrenner denied it was a

payoff for information from

Spira, who worked in a public

relations capacity for the David

Winfield Foundation.

In recent interviews and in

letters seized by authorities, Spira

claimed Steinbrenner still owes

him \$150,000, a \$50,000-a-year

job working for him at American

Shipbuilding Co. in Tampa and

free lodging at the Steinbrenner

owned Bay Harbor Inn. All of it

was for providing a service.

"What a service; to bring down

your superstar ballplayer," Spira

wrote to Steinbrenner in one

letter produced by the FBI.

"That's the sort of threat were talking about," U.S. attorney Robert W. Genzman said. "We certainly take these kinds of threats seriously from a law enforcement standpoint."



Anatoly Karpov

### Timman takes time out from game with Karpov

**KUALA LUMPUR (R)** — Jan Timman of the Netherlands took time-out from the ninth game of the world candidates chess final against Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union Saturday.

The game will take place on Monday with

Timman, who has now called for his second and last time out in the 12-game match, playing white.

Each player is allowed two time-outs and

Karpov has used one.

Karpov beat Timman in 38 moves in the eighth

game Friday and currently leads by 5.5 points to 2.5. The winner is the first to reach 6.5 points.

Karpov is one win away from another chance to take the title from world champion Gary Kasparov, also of the Soviet Union.

## Senna claims provisional pole in Sao Paulo

**SAO PAULO (R)** — Ayrton Senna claimed provisional pole position for Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix with another blistering demonstration of his special driving skills during Friday's opening qualifying session on his home town circuit.

Balestre said in a press release prior to Thursday's news conference that there were "serious threats" to the Grand Prix from economic troubles, track safety and poor weather.

During the conference, Balestre called his secretary general, Yves Leon, on a black cordless telephone for an update on track security after the first time trials were run.

His McLaren team mate Gerhard Berger of Austria was second quickest in 1:17.888 and shares the front row of the provisional grid with Senna, winner of the season-opening Phoenix race two weeks ago.

The Williams pair of Belgian Thierry Boutsen and Italian Riccardo Patrese were third and fourth fastest of the two Ferraris of Briton Nigel Mansell and Frenchman Alain Prost, both of whom complained that their goodyear qualifying tyres were not working well.

For most of the formula one

fraternity, having endured downpours, ramshackle conditions at the circuit where the pits and Paddock are less than half-completed and all the problems which go with an economy in the grip of rampant inflation, it was a familiar and welcome sight to see the expected three leading teams at the head of proceedings.

None of the teams using the Pirelli tyres which were so successful for the Tyrrell, Minardi and Dallara teams in Phoenix, were able to make a serious impression.

"I have a slight problem on one side of my neck and when I hit a bump through a long corner, I feel a crack and a pain in my neck. But everything should be okay for Sunday and the race."

Berger said he had too much understeer on his second fast run with his second set of qualifiers and effectively lost the last two corners.

He said: "I didn't drive my very best and the car felt a little light. I went wide on a couple of corners and also caught a Brabham slightly on one corner — so I know I can improve."

"Also, I need a strap put on my helmet tomorrow to help support it on the side of the cockpit."

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## Contras agree to disband

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Nicaragua's contra rebels have agreed to a plan to disband, removing a major obstacle to the peaceful transfer of power from the left-wing Sandinistas to a newly-elected, U.S.-backed government.

Under the agreement, which was immediately hailed by outgoing Sandinista President Daniel Ortega in Managua, an estimated 6,000 contras in Honduras would begin disbanding immediately.

Another 6,000 inside Nicaragua, whom the Sandinistas have accused of increasing their attacks recently, would agree to a ceasefire and regroup in internationally supervised security zones, handing over their arms at a later date.

"The demobilisation process begins today with the disarming of the force that still remains here in Honduras," said Antonio Lacayo, who represented the incoming government of Violetta Chamorro at talks on the eight-year-old insurgency.

The plan, signed by Lacayo, who is Chamorro's son-in-law, contra commander Oscar Solvalbarro and Roman Catholic Church leader and peace negotiator Cardinal Miguel Obando Y Bravo, Friday also called for spe-

cial internationally supervised zones for armed contras inside Nicaragua.

Ortega said Friday he fully supported the agreement to begin disbanding the U.S.-backed contra rebels.

"As president of Nicaragua I fully support this accord. I believe it goes in the direction of achieving peace and eliminating the war that has caused so much suffering, so much harm to the Nicaraguan people," he told reporters at Managua airport where he met representatives of the church and the new government.

No Sandinista officials attended Friday's talks.

Under the plan, the contras still remaining in camps inside Honduras would be disarmed under the supervision of the United Nations and the Organisation of American States peacekeeping forces by April 20, five days before Chamorro takes office.

The agreement was also praised by the Honduran government and the U.S. embassy in Tegucigalpa.

## Stalin-era mass grave found in Germany

EAST BERLIN (R) — An East German historian has uncovered a secret mass grave, where thousands of victims of Stalin's security police were buried at the end of World War II, the Berliner Zeitung reported Saturday.

Excavations at a wood near the northern town of Neubrandenburg have revealed layer upon layer of skeletons, including children as young as 12, who perished in the nearby Stalinist internment camp of Fuenfseenen as the Red Army advanced on

Berlin in 1945. "Stalinist terror as practised here was no different from what the Nazis did. It hit the guilty and innocent alike," said historian Dietrich Krueger. "This wood is a dipter of death."

Krueger said the grave had remained secret until now because local workers were intimidated into silence and all documentary evidence was locked away in the Soviet Union.

The first signs of the skeletons,

agreement calls for a ceasefire to be verified by Obando Y Bravo and the U.N. and OAS peacekeeping groups.

Contra leaders said the rebels would remain in the zones until the internal situation in Nicaragua allowed them to turn over their weapons and return to civilian life.

In a statement that seemed likely to anger Sandinista supporters, the plan said the Chamorro government would provide humanitarian aid for the contras in "recognition of the patriotic work of the Nicaraguan resistance."

With U.S. backing, the contras fought an eight-year war to oust the Sandinistas, who took power after the 1979 revolution. About 30,000 people died in the civil strife.

The Sandinistas labelled the rebels U.S. mercenaries and continued to equate them with the hated National Guard of ousted Dictator Anastasio Somoza. The contras viewed their fight as key to the Chamorro victory over Ortega in the Feb. 25 elections.

The agreement was also praised by the Honduran government and the U.S. embassy in Tegucigalpa.

To resolve the problem of the contras inside Nicaragua, the

## Hints of separatism surface in China

PEKING (AP) — Leaflets calling for an end to Chinese rule have appeared in China's westernmost region, an official from the area said Saturday, in the latest sign of unrest in the Xinjiang autonomous region.

Amudun Niyazi, chairman of the Xinjiang People's Congress standing committee, said handbills, leaflets and other materials "instigating separatist activities" had been discovered circulating in the region.

Niyazi said there had been no ethnic violence in Xinjiang, which is home to 25 different minority groups making up nearly

two-thirds of the population. But the past few months news reports from Xinjiang have hinted of trouble. Editorials and commentaries stressing the need for unity and stability and denouncing "separatist" activities have increased markedly.

In January, the region's armed police were ordered to intensify anti-riot training and intelligence work to prevent unrest.

Among the largest groups in Xinjiang are the Muslim Uyghur and Kazakh minorities, Central Asian ethnic groups with close ties to people living across the border in the Soviet Union.

"We must be on the alert," the delegates were quoted as saying.

Xinjiang's delegates to the National People's Congress, holding its annual session in Peking this week, were quoted by the Xinjiang Daily earlier this month as saying the region has "a small number of separatists, who present the greatest threat to Xinjiang's stability."

The delegates called the separatists "the scum of the Chinese people" and said they were acting under the guise of advocating religious freedom and democracy.

"We must be on the alert," the delegates were quoted as saying.

## Peru declares state of emergency; bomb kills 1

LIMA (R) — Suspected leftist guerrillas exploded a car bomb in front of Peru's Economic Ministry in Lima killing a passer-by and wounding 25 other people, police said.

Earlier Friday, suspected rebels shot dead a candidate for next month's congressional elections and a state of emergency was declared in the capital.

The car, filled with dynamite, exploded at a busy intersection in central Lima, breaking windows in nearby buildings, a police spokesman said.

Eight of the wounded were

seriously hurt, he said.

Neither of Peru's two major leftist guerrilla groups immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, although car bombs have been a tactic of the pro-Cuban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement.

Police set up roadblocks throughout Lima after the murder of the candidate for the centre-right Democratic Front Coalition by suspected Marxist Shining Path guerrillas.

More than 300 people were detained by police in anti-guerrilla operations and large

numbers of officers armed with sub-machineguns patrolled the city centre.

Four gunmen riddled Jose Galvez Fernandez with bullets as he left his home in the city's working-class Comas district. He died as a neighbour rushed him to hospital.

President Alan Garcia's government later declared a 30-day state of emergency in Lima and its suburbs and ordered police to remain in their barracks, suggesting police were planning more anti-guerrilla sweeps.

Galvez was the fifth candidate

## Hungary pauses for breath before free elections

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary catches its breath for a day of campaign-free reflection Saturday before sealing its return to Western-style democracy with the country's first free national elections since 1945.

For more than four decades, except for a sprinkling of by-elections since last summer and a few days before the 1956 uprising was quashed by Soviet tanks, Hungarian voters have had the choice of only one political party.

Now, after Hungary formally abandoned one-party Communism last October by declaring itself simply a republic instead of a Communist "people's republic," 27 parties will compete in Sunday's election for the 386 seats in Hungary's one-chamber parliament.

"These elections will be unique in a sense," interim head of state Matyas Szuros said in a television address to the nation Friday evening. "This will be perhaps our first genuine opportunity to decide, vote and choose freely."

Opinion polls among Hungary's 7.8 million electors indicate there could be a close result Sunday — when only around half the parliamentary seats are expected to be decided — and in a run-off round provisionally slated for April 8.

Most surveys indicate front-runners by a fraction are the Alliance of Free Democrats, a party founded by one-time dissidents which has a platform mixing U.S.-style liberalism and West European social democracy.

Almost neck-and-neck has been the centre-right Hungarian Democratic Forum, which may have a better chance than the Alliance of heading the next government because it has more cordial links with some smaller parties.

A survey released Friday by the independent polling organisation Median gave the alliance 21.4 per cent of public support, just half a percentage point ahead of the Forum.

In third place with 15.4 per cent was the likely "king-maker," the rural Independent Smallholders' Party which polled 57 per cent in Hungary's last free national elections in 1945.

The delegates were quoted as saying.

Two-thirds of the population.

But the past few months news reports from Xinjiang have hinted of trouble. Editorials and commentaries stressing the need for unity and stability and denouncing "separatist" activities have increased markedly.

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